

3 IDF soldiers killed in Lebanon

ANALYSIS No safe places in

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The explosive device that tore through the ranks of an elite Nahal Brigare unit at midnight on Wednisday - killing three of the soldiers and badly wounding another - showed once again that "relative quiet" in south Lebanon is pierely a enphetnism for the time lapse between one fatal attack and another.

zone

By DAVID RUDGE and ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

It also demonstrated, for the umpteenth time, that in the ongoing war in the security zone between the IDF and its South Lebanese Army ally on the one hand and Hizbullah, its Shi'ite rival Amal and Palestinian rejectionist groups on the other, there is no such thing as a relatively safe

place. The deadly attack offered additional proof, should any be needed, of the advantage that those

PM: Syria must restrain Hizbullah

By DAVID RUDGE

Three soldiers from an elite Nahal Brigade unit were killed and another was moderately wounded in a Hizbullah bomb attack inside the security zone late Wednesday night.

The dead are the commander of the unit, Lt. Yonatan Tzirkel, 21. of Kibbutz Shoval in the Negev; Sgt. Rotem Sharvit, 19, of Jerusalem; and Sgt. Niv Sadan,

19, of Kibbutz Meggido. Tzirkel was buried in the cemetery of his kibbutz yesterday evening. An hour later, Sharvit was laid to rest at the Mt. Herzl Military Cemetery in Jerusalem. Hundreds of people attended the funerals.

Sadan is to be buried in the cemetery of his kibbutz at 11 this morning.

The wounded soldier was brought to Haifa's Rambam Hospital by helicopter. Rambam deputy director Dr. Zvi Ben-Ishai said the wounded soldier was suffering from shrapnel wounds in his eyes, chest and legs.

"He underwent surgery and was

Levine: Public debate bad for IDF morale, Page 2

"The most simple and basic from the field took a long time because of the difficult terrain, which made it difficult for the thing that needs to be done at this moment is for Syria to restrain Hizbullah, stop the war and cardoctors in the rescue team to suffinage in Lebanon, and of course ciently stabilize the wounded so find with us the formula for they could be removed by helireturning to the negotiating table." copter. Two of the soldiers were he said. evacuated by helicopter to In a veiled warning to Lebanon Rambam, but one of them died en and ostensibly Syria, Defense

Minister Binyamin Prime Netanyahu called on Syria to stop

Sgt. Niv Sadan, left, Sgt. Rotem Sharvit and Lt. Yonatan Tzirkel.

Hizballah and urged Syria to restart peace talks with Israel. "We wish peace with Syria and rant to resume negotiations with

it was likely to cause a "deterioration in the security situation in Lebanon.

Mordechai said such a situation

and locate, identify and destroy

they were worthy of the appreciayon of the government and the entire nation. The incident itself occurred in Minister Yitzhak Mordechai condemned the bloody attack and said

directly and indirectly aiding the

He praised the IDF forces in the

security zone and said they were

carrying out an important mission

that assured the security of the

state. For this, Mordechai said,

terrorist.

what is known as Wadi Alman, in



(IDF Spokesman

the Shomriya region of the zone's central sector, when the relatively small unit set out on ambush duty. The squad's mission was to try

the live in the field, or receive ssistance based on the knowledge of local residents, have over the IDF troops trying to maintain control over what is still "alien terutory."

Hizbullah and the IDF are waging a snowballing war of technol-ogy. Each side tries to outdo the other with its improvisations, but the nature of war in south Lebanon

Continued on Page 17



his grave at the Mount Herzl Military Cemetery in Jerusalem

yesterday evening.

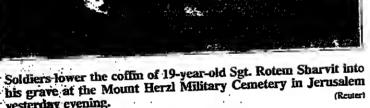
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Edison an antisemite? By JUDY SIEGEL

Postal Authority officials were red-faced yesterday upon learning that Thomas Edison, the famous inventor, who is to appear on an Israeli stamp to be issued soon, is believed by some to have been an

antisemite. The Postal Authority and the Israel Philatelic Service -informed of these claims by The Jerusalem Post - began to ladinch investigation yesterday into the harge.

The NIS 3.50 stamp, depicting dison, who invented the incanescent light bulb and the phonowaph, along with Alexander Waham Bell, the inventor of the telephone, is supposed to be fea-

Continued on Page 17

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later transferred to the intensive care unit. His condition is stable and there are good prospects that he will recover," Ben-Ishai said. The evacuation of the casualnes

it. But what we are seeing is that Syria, in effect, is enabling an unceasing war against Israel and Israeli soldiers in Lebanon through Hizbullah," he said, in a statement released by his office.

would have a negative imp the efforts to resume peace talks with Syria and Lebanon. In a press statement. Mordechai held the Lebanon government responsible as well as "elements which were

any terrorist infiltration squads in the area.

Continued on Page 17



NEWS

Friday, January 31, 1997 The Jerusalem Post

Generals blast public debate on S. Lebanon

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

OC Northern Command Maj.-Gen. Amiram Levine said the public debate over whether or not to keep IDF troops stationed in south Lebanon was having a detrimental effect on morale and was being manipulated by Hizbullah.

The public debate on sensitive military issues certainly has an influence if it spills beyond the necessary. It has an effect on morale and it has an influence on the feelings and decisions of not only on the tDF, but also on the other side. These struggles emerge and are picked up by the media and politicians and reserve officers," Levine told reporters in a briefing yesterday.

Levine was referring to the remarks made Tuesday by Labor MK Yossi Beilin, who called for a unilateral withdrawal from south

Lebanon without a written agreeand then people whom the public ment because too many soldiers were being killed there. Beilin also said Israel's continued presence there was playing into the Syrians' hands.

what they are doing is really nec-essary," Peled said on Army Beilin said Israel was being kept essary," "hostage" and its soldiers had Radio. become "sitting targets." Head of IDF intelligence Maj.-The tactic the IDF has employed

in its "low-intensity conflict" in Gen. Moshe Ya'alon, replying to Beilin, said earlier this week that Lebanon is mainly a defensive posture, peppered with special units like the Golani-backed Egoz the IDF position was not to leave and other elite units like the Nahal Levine's retired predecessor. reconnaissance squad which was Maj-Gen. (res.) Yossi Peled also hir yesterday.

Top field commanders in cautioned againsr the public debate on the IDF's presence in Lebanon are known to be pushing for their hands to be untied and "I and against shutting mouths, but there is some justification with allowed to initiate more operations against Hizbullah. Last week. what [Levine] says," Peled said. reports surfaced that a senior com-"When soldiers are sitting there mander in Lebanon criticized in the name of the government and before top IDF hrass, including in the name of the State of Israel the chief of staff, what he saw as a

takes seriously are saying. 'Let's

get up and teave, then it certainly has an effect on the morale, readi-

ness, determination and faith that

restrained Hizbullah.

However, the IDF has to walk a fine line. The Hizbullah traditionally attempts to escalate conflict before a resumption of peace talks with the Syrians. The IDF wants to prevent Katyusha rockets from threatening the North while keeping casualties to a minimum.

Government coordinator of activities in Lebanon Uri Lubrani said he completely agreed with Levine.

"This is a free country and there are many opinions." Lubrani said. "For many years we have been looking for a better, safer alternative for the quiet along the northern border than the present deployment.

We don't have any magical solutions," Lubrani told Army Radio. "There is no other way. We simply have to just grit our teeth."

'However nice you were to him, he was even nicer to you'

PM to meet Mubarak, Arafat during Davos business conference

Netanyahu will also meet with

The conference, sponsored by

By DAVID MAKOVSKY

Minister Binyamin Arafat. Prime Netanyahu heads to a major ittlernational business conference today in Davos. Switzerland, where officials said he hopes to reap political and economic dividends from the recent Hebroo pullback accord.

Meanwhile, Netanyahu's for-eign policy adviser Dore Gold during the Hebron talks. returned last night after a 24-hour visit to an unknown destination. Swiss President Arnold Koller. The two are expected to discuss The speculation is that Gold visited either Cairo or a destination in the issue of the Holocaust-erathe Persian Gulf. When asked to Jewish assets in Swiss banks. comment, Gold would only say the World Economic Forum, that the trip was made "in preparation for Davos." hrings together an estimated 2,000

Netanyahu and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak will leaders of corporations, central bank heads, and key leaders, including Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin and South meet Sunday in Davos, after both appear at a panel on Middle East

peace alongside Palestinian African President Nelson Anthority Chairman Yasser Mandela. Other prominent figures Arafat. attending are the new UN Netanyahu will hold private sessions with each on Sunday.

Secretary-General Kofi Annan and Newt Gingrich, Speaker of the US House of Representatives. Access to top leaders is why The meeting between Mubarak and Netanyahn will be their first since last July. The July session companies spend thousands of was congenial, but the relationship deteriorated after Mubarak dollars for the chance to send senior executives to Davos. "People are increasingly conaccused Netanyahu of bad faith

cerned about Russia and they will see Russian officials here. The Middle East is going to be a big issue and a number of the major players in the Middle East are going to be there," Robert Hornats, vice-chairman of Goldman Sachs International, told **Renters** Television.

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After Davos, Netanyahu heads to Rome, where he meets Italian leaders. He will also meet Pope John Paul II for the first time.

Weizman: No negotiations under current circumstances

By BATSHEVA TSUR

Israel cannot sit down with the Syrians at the negotiating table as long as the situation in Lebanon continues as it is now, President Ezer Weizman said yester day. "The Lebanon issue is very grave and has to be viewed! both from the political and the military points of view... It is, of course, connected from the political point of view with Syria," Weizman said yesterday. He was responding to reporters' questions during a visit to the South following the news of the death of the three soldiers. "From the political point of

view, I hope, we are on the thresh-old of talks with the Syrians," the president said, "But I am convinced that we cannot start talking so long as things continue in Lebanon as they are now." Weizman said, in response to a question, that he would not call on Synan President Hafez Assad to restrain the Hizbullah. He said that his previous calls to Assaid h met with no response. But, 7 said, Assad was aware that peac was vital to both sides "and I hope", he will at last understand this." Intimating that Israel should maybe change its tactics or strate-

gy in Lebanon, Weizman said: "I do not plan to comment on the ts now. Many peo-

ple have different ideas."

ago, he kept seeing Rotem as the bridegroom.

the security zone.

Lebanon.

"He was like a son to me," Amir

When a roadside bomb that exploded early yesterday moming in the security zone took the life of Sgt. Rotem Sharvit, a 19-year-old soldier from Jerusalem, friends and relatives say the world lost a boisterous and clever individual who was always ready to help oth-

By URIEL HEILMAN

"However nice you were to him," explained Yirmi Ben-Moshe, one of Rotem's best friends, "he was even nicer to you.'

The middle child in a family of two girls and one boy, Rotem grew up in the Jerusalem neighborhood of Gilo, anending local schools while making time for his passions of driving, surfing, watching movies and karate, in which he had become a brown beit.

His mother, Tali, remembers his lack of enthusiasm for school, insisting that his singularity could be found in his love for bringing joy into the lives of others.

smile that always seemed to cover-Rolem's face; and his father David : "He came over last Shabbat," spoke of his love for his family and his girlfriend of four years, Dikla Amir.

Dikla's father recalled how. when he saw Rotem dancing at his other daughter's wedding a week

insisted. Once inducted into the IDF. Rotem spent five months in a pilots' training course before being transferred to a reconnais-

sance unit of Nahal, in which he had been serving for eight months. When he was relocated to the North just two weeks ago, he put off telling his parents until recent-ly, preferring not to worry them, according to friends.

"He knew how important it was to us that he stay safe," said his mother, who talked about Rotem's plans for an adventure in New Zealand and Australia following his release from the 1DF, after which he had planned to go into husiness.

The Sharvit household was packed with so many mourners that visitors had to wait in the apartment next door before getting a chance to console Rotem's parents. While some couldn't stop the flow of tears, others simjoy into the lives of oners. _____ Friends spicke of the more ply found the miselves in a state of -disbelief. - --- - ---

> recollected Zahaya Ben-Moshe, a family friend and neighbor. "The meal didn't seem to end. He is usually so restless, but this past Shabbat he sat for a long time, laughing and talking.





David Sharvit attempts to coasole his wife Tali at the funeral of their son Rotem.

Renal, Rivi

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Soldiers salute Tzirkel

'We of 'The Tzirkel Squad' don't know what to do, or how, because our father - which is what we called you behind your hack - is no longer with us," members of LL Yonatan Tzirkel's unit said yesterday at his funeral on Kibbutz Shoval in the Negev.

Tzirkel, 21. killed in yesterday's roadside bomh attack with two of his men. had been active in the Hashomer Hatzair movement before joining the army, and was known for always lending a helping hand on the kibbutz.

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"The army was important to Yonaton: and after he finished his officer's course, there was a smile of contentment on his face," his brother Boaz remembered.

His soldiers said he reminded them of something strong, steady, like a tree with a trunk that doesn't bend in the wind. That's the way you were - not straying a meter from the path, the true path.

He is survived by his parents, a brother and a sister. (Itin:)

Kibbutz mourns Sadan

(Flash 90)

By DAVID RUDGE

The death of SgL Niv Sadan, 19, of Kibbutz Meggido, cast a pall of mourning over the members of the community and those who knew the young soldier from his school days. The sense of loss was heightened by the fact

that one of his classmates from the regional school and a neighboring kibbutz was killed less than three months ago in the naval commando training accident in Haifa port.

As friends and members of the kibbutz gathered at his home, Niv's mother, a psychologist, and his father, personnel manager of the Polygal plastics factory on the kibbutz, tried to come to terms with their loss quietly and alone.

"Niv's death is a terrible blow to all of us on the, kibbutz, especially his parents, his elder brother Lior, who is due to be released from the army in a month's time, and his younger sister, who is in high school," said Giora Sela, coordinator of the kibbutz.

Sela said that all of the boys in Niv's grade in high school had volunteered for combat units. "Motivation among this group in particular has not disappeared," he said.



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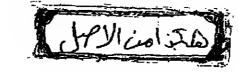
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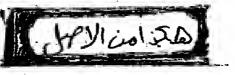
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Lieberman hit

with complaint

NEWS

Pines: I heard about Bar-On story before ITV

The Amitai association filed a complaint with police yesterday against Avigdor Lieberman, the director-general of the Prime Minister's Office, for alleged incitement against the police and

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obstruction of an investigation. The complaint, filed with National Investigations Chief Cmdr. Sando Mazor, relates to remarks Lieberman made in an interview on Channel- 2 Wednesday night, in which he accused the police of racism and said they were being used to "settle political scores." The association also filed a com-

plaint on the matter with Acting. Attorney-General Edna Arbel Lieberman's remarks led to demands that he be suspended. Labor Knesset faction chairman MK Ra'anan Cohen appealed to Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahn and Civil Service Commissioner Shmuel Hollander to suspend Lieberman immediately, until he retracted his remarks and the police complete its invesogation of suspicions Lieberman doctored a report submitted to the cabinet on the Israel Broadcasting Authority.

Labor Party leader Shimon Peres said Lieberman's remarks were very serious.

By LIAT COLLINS

Yisrael Ba'aliya faction chair-

man Roman Bronfman is demand-

ing a public apology from Interior

Minister Eli Suissa for his com-

ments regarding the abuse of the

Law of Return by immigrants

from the CIS.

Bronfman demands Suissa

apologize for remarks

over interview "I have a very harsh opinion of this. One can't destroy national institutions for one's own comfort. The state doesn't belong to one party or the other. You can't keep on attacking judges, the police, officers or the press," Peres said. Even Finance Minister Dan

Meridor hinted that Lieberman had been out of line. "The major task of the police, the prosecution, the attorney-gen-eral and the courts, is not just to

enforce the law against ordinary citizens, but also against those in senior positions," Meridor said. Eveo during this difficult time, I would advise everyone to act accordingly. But Likud MK Uzi Landau said

Lieberman's anger was oot totally without basis.

"I would say don't judge a per-son in his anger, but I would also suggest that the police, not necessarily in this instance, examine carefully how they have been handling things during the past few years," Landau said.

"You have to understand that Lieberman was himself the focus of harsh public criticism without being able to defend himself, so you can understand that this man, in his hour of crisis, spoke the way he did." (ltim)

By RAINE MARCUS and MICHAL YUDLEMAN

Labor-MK Ofir Pines vesterday told the police that two people from the legal profession had told him of the conspiracy behind the appointment of Roni Bar-On long before Channel 1 broke the story last Wednesday.

Pines said he did not use this information in his petition to the High Court of Justice against Bar-On'a appointment a few weeks ago, because at the ome he found it difficult to believe.

But when he saw the report on television, he said, he decided to pass what he knew on to the police to enable them to crosscheck their information and advance the investigation on the basis of data from different sources, independent of Channel 1's findiogs. He noted that the sources were reliable people whom he knew well, and that they had sought him out to give him the information.

Pines said it was important to inform the police of what he knew "following the attempt to undermine Channel 1'a report. This information can substantiate the television's version." He noted that he did not give his

sources' names to the police, but said he would if asked. Meanwhile, he said he would try to persuade them to come forward themselves.

Lawyer Dan Avi-Yitzhak, Aryeh Deri's defense attorney, also gave evidence for around seven hours at the National Police Headquarters in Jerusalem yesterday. Rumors and speculations that Avi-Yitzhak leaked the story of the alleged

"Bar-On for Hebron" deal to the law and would answer police Channel 1's reporter Ayala Hasson have not been confirmed, and Avi-Yitzhak himself described the rumors as "ridiculous." He first gave evidence, secretly. on

Jerusalem after being questioned yesterday.

As he entered the Jerusalem headquarters, Avi-Yitzhak, wbo has reportedly been at odds with Deri in recent weeks, told reporters that be always has behaved within the framework of

questions accordingly.

ITV reporter Ayala Hasson and lawyer Dan Avi-Yitzhak leave National Police Headquarters in

Deri has "neutralized" Avi-Yitzhak as his legal representaove, with mutual suspicion concerning the Bar-On affair, and Deri's subsequent decision to reduce Avi-Yitzhak's role in his defense.

ONLY AT CO-OP BLUE SQUARE

Hasson also gave evidence for several hours for the second time this week, in an attempt by police

In a short briefing to journalists, Mazor would only say that "the investigation is progressing and there is definitely a reason to con-

(Flash 90)

probe," he added.

invesogators, headed by Cmdr. Sando Mazor, to uncover the truth surrounding the scandal.

"In 10 days we will probably reach more advanced stages in the

onue.

He emphasized that no political pressure is being put on police

during the sensitive and compli-cated probe. Thus far eight people have

been summoned to give evidence - the names of six have been published and Mazor refused to reveal the other two. Businessman David Appel. a close friend of Deri's who was accused by Hasson as being an intermediary between Deri and Bar-On, has said he will sue ITV. He is on the list of those who can expected to be called for questioning, together with Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert. Deri, Jusoce Minister Tzahi Hanegbi, Director-General of the Prime Minister's Office Avigdor Lieberman and others.

A senior police source said yesterday that if necessary "it will not damage our cause to ask a court to lift journalist/source immunity if this means we will get to the truth of the matter."

However, police are apparently progressing without asking for such a procedure. The source also said that at this stage there is no need to decide regarding the questioning of Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu,

Meanwhile, Itim reported that State Attorney Edna Arbel yesterday talked with Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani seeking assurances that the investigation will proceed secretly and without any interference by Kahalani. She also spoke to Police Inspector-General Assaf Hefetz and the heads of the investigation, This followed reports that Kahalani was being updated on the investigation, and had updated MKs as well.

"The ministry's policies border on an attack on human dignity and basic rights," he said. "The minister must either apologize or resign. His statements in the plenum were anti-Zionist and completely go against the essence of the State as a country of immigration and absorption." In an Army Radio interview yes-

During an answer to a parliamentary question by Bronfman terday, Suissa said his statements this week, Suissa told the MK: had oot been aimed specifically at Russian immigrants. "You have no idea what damage

"The problem exists with immithe Law of Return is causing the

State. I call it robbing the coffers." grants from other countries too. Suissa said escort ords and crim- 7 Lissing the rate of Russian immi-inals are using ficturious maniferes. or conversion to gain entry to organs more frequently," he said." Israel for the immigrant benefits "Lately we've become a sanctuary

for all sons who can't find a cor-

per anywhere else in the world

they bring forged documeous,

Wednesday.

Globes reported yesterday that

and work. He said he had given orders to be stricter in handling entry permits. Bronfman accused Saissa of

casting a stigma over the whole immigration from the former Soviet Union.

"Israel exists thanks to the Law of Return and the immigration from the Diaspora," Bronfman said. "Immigration never harmed the country but only enriched it in all fields." Bronfman said the minister

to issue his staff.

cheat us, take the [ecooomic] absorption basket, receive an identity card, receive a passport, receive a mortgage and after that they run away and can't be found. "In the last half of 1996 through our strict examinations we saved the country NIS 18 million through fictitious marriages which we caught."

of changing the Law of Return "at could not place himself above the the moment" and was only trying law in choosing what instructions to prevent it being abused.

He stressed he had no intendon

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OPINION

Friday, January 31, 1997 The Jerusalem Post

Rui



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The challenge of clean government

the accusations by Avigdor Lieberman, director geoeral of the Prime Minister's selves; whatever they say reflects directly on Office, that police investigations are motivated by "racism" and that the police are used to "settle poliocal scores" were inappropriate and should be retracted, as Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani and others have demanded.

Lieberman's remarks probably reflect a misuoderstanding of the responsibilities of power, and are not a deliberate attempt to subvert the rule of law. That he made them, however, is disappointing evidence that the Netanyahu government is not about to improve the flawed state of the culture of government here.

Lieberman's remarks were made after he learned that a police investigation was opened against him at the request of an opposition MK, relating to allegations that he falsely summarized a government report on the Israel Broadcasting Authority. On its face, an attempt to mislead the cabinet by skewing the summary of a report - which ministers could have read in full - would, if it indeed occurred, seem to be a case of bad judgment, not a police matter. It is possible that the police were too quick to open an investigation, and even that the decision was not free from political pressures.

But even if there was some justification for Lieberman's charges, they were not for him to make, and certainly not in public. It is inappropriate for senior political figures, particularly unelected ones, to lash out at governmeot bodies. As Fioance Minister Dan Meridor said, "all those in authority, be they Members of Knesset, ministers, or senior civil servants, must respect the law." It is particularly damaging to have a senior official cast aspersion on the objectivity of bodies that are responsible for upholding the rule of law and depend on their public credibility to do so,

It is oot entirely surprising that Lieberman, a political operative who has never held public office, would have some trouble adjusting to the fact that statements which would be "merely" irresponsible if made by a private individual take on more serious implications when made by a close aide to the prime minister. It belps that Lieberman subsequently said he was speaking only for himself. The problem is that senior

the government in general and the prime minister in particular.

The incident would be serious enough if it were an isolated one, and did not hring to mind other examples of a cavalier approach to preserving the public's trust in government. Unfortunately, this is not the case.

Even if the Bar-On-for-Hebron affair turns out oot to be a moral iceberg floating towards the ship of government, the short-lived Bar-On appointment revealed a staggering blindness to public sensitivities. The more recent revelatioo that Dan Avi-Yitzhak, who is defending MK. Arych Deri in bis ongoing fraud trial, was also seriously considered for the post demonstrates that - at best - the government gravely misunderstood the role of the attorney-general.

The standard government response - that it is being unfairly held to a double standard - is getting rather stale, even if it contains a grain of truth. It does not take a moral microscope to detect the credibility problems Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu created for himself with his series of failed senior appointments, The public surely had a right to expect that the new governmeot aspire to set a higher standard of behavior, rather than arguing repeatedly that it is no worse than its predecessors.

That senior government appointees should not be under police investigation or under threat of indictment, and that they should have more than the minimum qualifications for the post they are to hold, should certainly not be too much to expect. It would, of course, be even better if the appointees were beyood reproach and highly qualified, such as attorney-geoeral designate Elyakim Rubinstein,

Israel has long suffered from the attitude that the law and the public mores that surround it are things to get around, rather than uphold. The Netanyahu government should not regard public demands for clean government as a media conspiracy, but as a challeoge, alongside the challeoges of forging a secure peace and reforming the economy. A good way to start is to make sure that senior officials do not vent their frustrations in a way that undermines public confidence in those entrusted with enforcing the law.

RECIPROCITY

Sir, - The New York Times of

January 18 quotes Hebron Mayor Mustafa Natshe, when referring to

the limit on the number of Palestinian

policemen and paramilitary soldiers

to be deployed, as saying: "Officially

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

WATER SUPPLIES

The orgotiation was between Labor doves and Likud bawks who, together, understood the changing reality and, on that basis, decided to come up with a constructive plan for a solution that doesn't necessarily stem from their party platforms.

Each ideological movement bas.



Consensus, not compromise

YOSSI BEILIN

wasn't surprised at the criti-cism from both Likud and

Labor regarding the consensus reached by MKs from both parties on a permanent agreement with the Palestinians.

After all, for 30 years the future of the West Bank has been the central issue in our lives. More than any other, it has divided our two major political factions. The fact that hawks and doves

have actually found it possible to draw up a joint document of such significance cannot but compel our political system to rouse itself at last from its privileged inactiviry and make a supreme effort to lay down clear positions on vital issues.

These include our complex ties with the Diaspora, the development of the relationship between Jews and Arabs in Israel, the future of the welfare state, and our gaping social inequalities, which must be narrowed.

Who, after all, has felt like grappliog with such thorny issues wheo things were so simply divided into a "National Camp" and a "Peace Camp?

The joint document does not represent a compromise between two historical movements. It was oot a negotiation between Labor hawks and Likud doves, in which the Labor representatives agreed to stricter limits on territorial compromise and the Likud represectatives to a minor surrender of territory in the West Bank.

Gaza Strip by adding a small piece in the Halutza Desert will be over the years, determined a part of our reality; but until recently each refused to reconcile itself discussed with the Palestinians; with the reality created by the but it will not be a one-on-one exchange for the territory annexed larger society. The Likud created a settlement in the West Bank.

map that, to us, seemed a grave mistake. Likewise, we designed the Oslo process, which the Likud saw as a serious error.

not uprooting settlements that remain in the Palestinian state is, for me, an important principle. Settlers in these places will be

able to choose between living as

The document's statement about

Labor doves and Likud hawks understood a changing reality. That led to

During our discussions we came to the conclusion that we had to move toward the permanent agreement from an expanded oational consensus that would take account of this reality and country. these attitudes.

WHAT DOES the agreement say? It says that a Palestinian cotity will be established, its sovereignty limited hy the fact of its having

no army. In my opinion, this entity will be a state to all intents and purposes. Its borders will differ from the 1967 borders. Israel will annex a sectioo of the

West Bank which will eccompass the largest blocs of existing settlements. Anyone looking at the map will see wby this needs to be done.

It is necessary to annex approximately 10 percent of the territory of the West Bank. Io response to this annexation, widening the

Israelis under foreign sovereignty, or accepting compensation and moving to sovereign Israel. It is my belief that more than a few will opt for Israel, and oot another

If Israel decides unilaterally to evacuate such settlements, or any others, it will do so as the result of Israeli decisions and Israeli con-, siderations, and not as an element of the agreement.

While the 1948 refugees will not be permitted to return to their homes in Israel, we will not be allowed to prevent them from setthing in the future Palestinian state unless this poses a concrete security risk.

I believe that, in the event, most of the refugees will prefer to refurbish their present bomes, and that only a small number of them will elect to move to the West Bank and Gaza.

In every aspect, the refugee problem has posed the greatest ship.

problem of recent years. The consensus we have achieved does, I believe, provide the most reasonable soluton; our informal discussions with the Palestinians led us to understand that many hold it to be the most logical one.

The problem of Jerusalem is the most difficult, because of its sym-bolic significance. The key to solving it is the way we define AI-Kuds and Jerusalem. The capital of the Palestinian

entity/state can be in Abu Dis -Al-Kuds - and yet still lie outside uoified Jerusalem, the capital of Israel, which will remain under

Israeli sovereignty. It is likely that we will have to continue discussing the future of East Jerusalem even after the permanent agreement, if there is no change in the status quo.

A special arrangement is needed regarding the Christian and Moslem holy places. In my view, the best decision would be granting the Temple Mount extraterritorial status, making it a site where we would not exercise our sovereignry. Our document, jointly agreed on

by MKs from the two main factions, creates a precedent in Israeli politics.

Its text is not a compromise between two parties. It is not a document of noes, its message isn't vague.

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Asolid

It provides a solotion which will form the basis of serious negotiations leading up to the permanent agreement with the Palestinians.

Those whose desire for peace is sincere, who understand that, in peace, no side will be able to realize all of its dreams, must support

The writer is an MK and a candidate for the Labor Party leader-

the Likud or Labor standpoint,

one can agree that it goes some

way in serving the country's

If the plan is presented as show-

ing that Israel is open to compro-

mise in the final arrangement with

the Palestinians - in stark and

welcome contrast to Syria, which

has refused to cede even an inch

The other side of this, however,

Arab propaganda. The Arabs and

their Jewish supporters have

badly-needed PR interests.

negotiation, and a joint document

Yet these two creations constirute the reality of our lives today.

Sir, - Having just returned from a stay in Israel, I am aware of the current real anxiety in Israel concerning the security of water supplies for the country, but have also noted that precious treated drinking quality water is used for general purposes, such as personal hygiene and irrigation.

Is it beyond the ability of Israeli engineers to devise a system in which treated drinking water is supplied for that purpose only and water used for other purposes is recycled? Looked at this from a long term point of view, such procedures would go a long way to alleviate the water supply difficulty.

London.

HEALING THE RIFTS

DAVID KUT

all too real.

zen.

laws.

arise'

restrain).

Jerusalem.

Sir, - Has anyone noticed that Mr. Netanyahu's promise to heal the country's deep rifts between factions and be prime minister of all of Israel has been kept? The statistics compiled by Liat Collins (January 17) show how the Hebron agreement passed handily while Oslo II, a little over a year ago, was passed by the Knesset with great difficulty. Only confidence by the majority

of the Knesset in the prime minister and his government that they have, indeed, put forth their best effort for the good of the country could have produced such a display of support from a strong center with, as in any democracy, a few dissenting voices. NORMA AND BENJAMIN MARX

Jerusalem.

ISRAEL BASHERS

Sir. - For the past two years, I have listened faithfully to BBC radio between about 12:30 a.m. and sign-off, and frequently heard Lyce Doucet's reports on IsraeL Would that all foreign correspondents n Israel matched her for fairness and accuracy.

I have not seen her on BBC television, and am fully aware that the BBC frequently presents distorted and twisted versions of the fact where Israel is concerned, but I have never found such grounds to complain where Miss Doucet's reportage is concerned. Stan Goodenough's complaints (Letter. December 15) listing Lyce Doucet "among the worst" of the Israel bashers surprises me.

MELVIN FENSON

Jerusalem

Sir, - The possibility of providing the expatriate Israeli with the right to vote in general elections marks a coming of age for the Israeli political system, for the right to vote is an integral part of any real democracy.

THE RIGHT TO VOTE

400 is the number, but maybe it will On the one hand, citizens who be double or triple that to keep order. fail to serve in the armed forces Who is going to count them?" Is this the way the agreement and defend their country have not will be honored? Is reciprocity carned the right to vote, to decide again to be ignored? our fate. On the other hand, the right to vote in Israel today may The Israeli government needs to respond immediately and strongly actually be tantamount to giving to all Israelis a say in the survival of to this statement and to any other the Jewish people, since the future violations, no matter how small or of the Israeli state determines the large. Only with a sharp and pubfuture of the Jewish people. The lic response can the agreement be arguments, both pro and con, are honored. Reciprocity means what it says and compliance to the letter varied and noteworthy, hut the possibility for abuse of this right is is part of reciprocity.

law, anywhere in the world, may

come to Israel and become a citi-

of intent to live in Israel as a citi-

the next time the "Who Is a Jew"

its bonesty and integrity. We already have a large number of

politicians and their cronies before

the courts. In this environment, do

we really want to provide another

avenue for the corruption of our

HERSCHEL AUERBACH In Israel, according to the Law Las Vegas, Nevada. of Return, any Jew, as defined by

ADOPTING A CHILD

zen. There is no period of resi-Sir. - We would like to thank you for publishing the article of November 16 about the boy Daniel, dence required, no rejection of current citizenship, no declaration who needs to be adopted. Due to this publication, several families expressed interest in his story and Can you imagine the impact upon the next election if Habad showed willingness to adopt him. At or an anti-Zionist sect in New present, we are in contact with them York sent all its people to Israel and we are checking out these posto become citizeos, allowed sihilities. We would like to stress them to return to New York and that, even if these families will not prove suitable for Daniel, perhaps then vote in our elections? Imagine the cbaos to be created they will be suitable for other children in the shelters. We will be glad issue comes before the Knesset to hear from more families that are interested in adopting a child (telefor a vote. Imagine the special interests that might find this new phone: (02) 670-81771. NEHAMA TAL.

right to vote the perfect opportu-Hasherut Lem'an Haveled, nity to circumvent local election Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs Unfortunately, we do not have a political echelon that is known for Jerusalem.

SELF-FLAGELLATION

Sir, -- With the reopening of the Bus No. 300 affair, it seems that Israelis are engaging in a dangerous game of unveiling security service actions, a service vital to Israel's future.

politicians? Are we prepared for Why this compulsion and need the potential abuse that might for self-flagellacon and admission of mea culpa for a terrorist attack Perhaps it is an idea whose of 13 years ago? These murderers were on a mission of death and time has come. But it may also be fraught with danger. The mayhem. Whatever transpired is

Knesset must examine this idea ancient history and should be allowed to die a natural death. Our thoroughly, with an eye towards controls. It is better to assume enemies in the region (and they such a law will be abused and be are numerous and single-minded prepared for such abuse, than to in their animus to Israel) are elated think Israeli politicians will at this latest example of Israel's show character, bonesiy and penchant to self-destruct. Enough soul-searching and guilt.

FAY DICKER ALAN C. SALMANSON Brooklyn, N.Y.

Well-meaning, but lacking in wisdom

MOSHE ZAK

ccording to an intelligence A report recently published in Washington, the grow-

ing divisioo in our society is a possibility of partition at the prime factor-eocouraging Syria's leadership to push for war. The assessment in Damascus is that the schism that has opened up inside Israel will prevent us retaliating effectively in the event of a surprise attack.

But the joint document signed this week by Labor MK Yossi Beilin and Michael Eitan, chairman of the Likud Knesset faction. outlining agreed basics of the permanent arrangement between Israel and the Palestinians, indicates that that schism may be less wide than appears.

In fact, a valuable process of dialogue has begun inside Israel and it is this that leads me to deem the document a good thing, while differing with its contents.

The Beilin-Eitan plan sends a signal to Syria and the Palestinian Authority that they had better not base their strategy on the belief that partisan squabbling in Israel has imposed a kind of paralysis on the country.

Put to the test, as we were in 1967, the forces of unity outweighed those of separatism.

I have no wish to belittle the achievement of Beilin, who boasts of being the first to bring a Likud representative to recognize an official document espousing the

principle of partition. But the "copyright" on this actually belongs to Moshe Dayan. who, as foreign minister in the Begin government, broached the

POSTSCRIPTS

IN THIS country, street names can

of a thoroughfare in Jerusalem for

the iconoclastic Jewish philoso-

pher Spinoza; a street named for a

Lehi fighter could be an embar-

rassing address for someone who

Leumit health fund. It recently dis-

patched invitations for the opening

of a new community medical cen-

ter in Bat Yam. The address,

fought in the Hagana.

Haredim objected to the naming

be a problem.

Leeds Castle conference in Britain in July 1978. Dayan eveo received retroactive Knesset approval of the formula he put before US secretary of state Cyrus Vance. Dayan chose his words wisely. tion.

Rather than suggest partition, he said that "if a concrete proposal were offered [by the Arabs] for a peace agreement based on territorial compromise, Israel would be willing to discuss it, in accordance with what we have said on previous occasions."

Eitan didn't grasp the subtlety of

Beilin and Eitan have good intentions. But there are no quick solutions to sticky problems

plan.

Dayan's wording. He didn't understand that one can accept a "territorial compromise" formula without infringing the principle of not proposing partitioo. Dayan didn't offer the Arabs

partition; he told them that if they presented a concrete proposal, Israel would be willing to discuss iL

HERE LIES the difference, as well as the wisdom.

As soon as Israel initiates a concrete proposal for partition, partition immediately becomes the base point from which the bargaining process proceeds.

Sellers Street)!

But the problem is not always I am pretty sure the oldest record-polincal. Take, for example, the d joke is in the Hehrew Bible.

have been Jewish.

Jackson says the following:

ago, give or take a few.

"As a lecturer on Jewish humor,

In such an event, all positions previously defined as preconditions - such as guaranteeing the safety of the settlements, or leaving Jerusalem undivided - suddenly become subject to negotia-

of the land it held before the Six This is the Beilin-Eitan docu-Day War - the Beilin-Eitan document's main, and great, weakness. While incorporating several ment will, despite its considerable elements from past Knesset decishortcomings, have been worth sions and Israeli declarations, it the great effort that went into turns what were heretofore drafting it. immovables into mere jumpingoff points. is that the plan can be exploited by

True, it is a positive thing to

broad national consensus around

the principle that settlements

should continue under Israeli sov-

ereignty - in other words, that we

will not return to the 1967 bor-

ders, which ultimately led to war.

have, one must take possible

negotiating tacocs into account, as

well as the likely response of the

other side. The Palestinians, as

one might have imagined, have

wasted no time in denouncing the

attacked it as an Israeli annexation plot. ' There is no way a mighty tussle between us and the Palestinians on permanent borders can be avoided. But it can be postponed until 1999 demonstrate the existence of a

After all, why hurry to bring the fight forward in time, to invited immediate confrontation - which is what the Beilin-Eitan endeavor does?

The plan is said to be a guideline for the three future IDF redeploy-But before going public with a detailed plan, as Beilin and Eitan ments. However, its publication will only accelerate the crisis.

In my view, it is preferable to postpone discussion of the complex border issues and not attempt instant solutions. A little more patience would serve us well. 1.192

Even without going into the document's ideology from either The writer a veteran journalist comments on currents affairs.

believe it or not, is 3 Rehov have been freed from Egyptian Mochrei Hasigariot (Cigarette slavery and have rushed into the Judy Siegel desert toward the Promised Land. Withio a few days they find them-selves in front of the Red Sea with THE FIRST JOKE may well the Egyptian army in hot pursuit. In Collected Wisdom Philip The Hehrews go up to Moses.

and cry, 'Ain kvarim b'mitgray-im...' which is Hebrew for 'Are there no graves in Egypt, that you took us out here to die? "The Hebrews are using innuen-

which places it some 3.000 years do, sucasm and whistling-through-It takes place in ... Exodus, the-graveyard numor. That, to me, shortly after the ancient Hebrews is the oldest recorded joke in

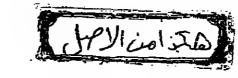
history." (Globe and Mail Word Watching)

THIS IS the kind of bank reb-bery that makes upstanding citizens see red: some guy roobed

a blood bank. The masked guiman slipped into a Red Cross blood bank in Cali, Colombia, and held np a cashier for note that \$4,000 collected from sales of block to bospitals and revenues from laboratory test results

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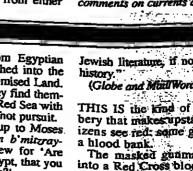


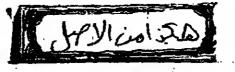
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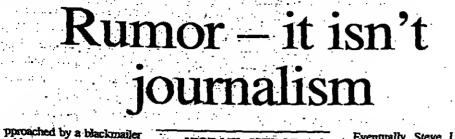
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The Jerusalem Post Friday, January 31, 1997

OPINION



A with a copy of a love letter Lord Wellington had authored, the hero of Waterloo retorted: "Publish, and be damned!"

A look at the story that broke last week of a presumed "fix" between politicians and the previous attorney-general appointee shows that the Israel Broadcasting Authority appears to have distorted the message implied in Wellington's oft-quoted remark.

publish - and you'll be damned!"

between the IBA and the private-

There is a major difference

Private journalists are governed

by their own professional code of

mation cooveyed to them on the

condition that it remain confiden-

tial, and not [to] identify a confi-

dential source unless the source agrees." American and British-

codes refer to "protecting confi-

The IBA, however, is explicitly

directed by law to "broadcast reli-

able information." The same law,

the Law of the Israel Broadcasting

Authority, paragraph 4, also dic-tates a modicum of balance in pre-

As a public broadcasting sys-

tem, the IBA owes those who pay

the special license fee the right to

judge whether or not the news it

The best advice the new

auorney-general, Elyakim

exploitation of the symbols of

senting views and opinions.

dential sources of information."

In this latest imbroglio involving the media and the political ecbelon, TV reporter Ayala Hasson and editor Rafik Halaby seem to feel that journalistic lise ethics allow them to report a story without offering any impartial evidence to back it up. Viewers are supposed simply to trust them. Bur to those involved, figures whose reputations and careers are under threat, they are saying, "We'll

ly-owned press.

libel is an issue.

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presents is indeed reliable. Why should the police, as the result of a criminal investigation, be the first to get a look at the factual basis underlying a highly. damaging report such as the 'Bar-On-for-Hebron deal'?

YISRAEL MEDAD If the IBA wants to protect its sources, fine. But why should viewers be left in the dark without any objective evidence to explain why IBA executives are so confi-

dent about the veracity of their reporter's revelations? After all, the public essentially owns the authority, and the anthority's obligation is thus to the public.

In addition to serving the princi-ples of truth and freedom of the press, the IBA is also obliged to act responsibly. Interestingly, Hassoo's scoop

was not passed on for vetting by the IBA's own legal adviser.

Respect for the public demands real, independent corroboration

This is a highly unorthodox fail-

ethics; for them the law only ure. A news item of this magnicomes into play in cases where tude and potential ramifications should have been submitted to the Israel's Press Council instructs legal test before being exposed to its members not to "reveal infor-

the light of day. But of course, if a reporter or editor is thinking not about the public interest, or even about ethics, but only about a private agenda, such negligence becomes understandable.

Although IBA Director-General Motti Kirschenbaum and TV director Yair Stem have taken pains to distance themselves from any "political" involvement, two stones from recent months point to a problem in the IBA, one that generates an unhealthy tension when the government is the subject of reportage.

INITIAL IBA coverage of Binyamin Netanyahu's US Social Security file "in the name of one John O'Sullivan" was not only severely critical of the prime minister's supposed behavior, but unbalanced and solely dependent on outside sources.

Eventually Steve Leibowitz who works for the IBA's English News division and also reports for The Jerusalem Post -, tracked down the real story on his own inioative. Netanyahu's financial irregularities were proved in be nonexistent.

A second incident was the question of who was telling the truth about the deliberations prior to the opening of the Hasmonean tunnel exit. Was it GSS Head Ami Ayalon, or the prime minister?

Again, without any real information except what is referred to in the trade as "chats in the corridor," the IBA waded into the ano-Netanyahu campaign with gusto. When the prime minister's spokesman took the rare step of

calling in poliocal reporters and showing them the relevant sections of the cabinet minutes, it turned out that the IBA was again backing the wrong story. Hasson has altered her initial

report, which hinted broadly that Netanyahu himself was involved in the deal concocted between attorney-general candidate Roni Bar-On, MK Arych Deri and the director-general of his office, Avigdor Lieberman.

The problem, though, is that IBA consumers have been presented with no document, photograph or any other objective proof that what Hasson claims happened - and that her editor insists "backed up by a thousand tons of cement" - is the truth.

If the story is so good, and --undeniably -- crucial for Israel as a democratic society, why not let the public into the know? And if there was no way to do that without compromising sources, why not wait a few days more in the hope of acquiring additional cor-roboration of such an an explosive story?

Respect for the public has sunk very low, and that can't be anything but bad news.

The writer is director of Media Watch, a non-partisan advocacy group concerned with the ethical and professional standards of the media in Israel.



Return of the Wandering Jew

AMOTZ ASA-EL

A FIER seeing, in 1542 in a Hamburg church, a tall bearded, barefoot beggar in rags beating his breast, lowering his head and sighing deeply when-ever he heard Christ's name, Schleswig's Bishop Paulus von Eitzen had no doubt He had seen Ahasueres, the Wandering Jew.

The estermed clergyman was West

this country since its establishbelieved he would ultimately induce Western Jews to abandon ment are a grim reminder of our founding fathers' failure to create the Diaspora's golden calves and here the kind of economic opportunities offered elsewhere in the

join his socialist experiment. In reality, only a minuscule minority of Western Jews actu-

Wandering-Jew prejudice. He

would highlight our possession of this omnipresent, unconventional weapon.

Perhaos the wanderers among us, whether a falafel grocer in Manhattan, a high-tech entrepreneur in Palo Lato, or a hitchhiker in Nepal carry a few. of Ahasteres's genes: but they are no. longer the servile, drooling, hunchbacked, tear-sodden caricature he was. Rather, they are free people who have served in a Jewish army, and for often much more time than some of the selfrighteous MKs who (conveniently ignoring haredim and Arabs) now say absentee voting should be the exclusive right of those who fight Israel's wars,

Rubinstein, could give Prime Minister Netanyahu is to end the practice of making the attorney-general a regular partic- Max 2 ipant in cabinet meetings. Menachem Begin's institution. of the custom was part of his

statehood to strengthen the legitimacy of his government. With NISUON time, it has come to symbolize a major flaw in our constitutional

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system: confusing the legality of politics with the rule of law. This confusion infects much of our public life. The reaction to the TV scoop on the abortive appointment of Roni Bar-On to the post. of attorney-general is a case in

point. Legality is almost certainly not the major issue. In fact, it may not be an issue at all.

Making the attorney-general a regular participant in cabinet meetings was part of the process by which the confusion between the legality of politics and the rule of law was created.

Political issues were converted into questions of law. The attorney-general became the arbiter of ethical standards in government.

Thus, Begin asked attorney-general Yitzhak Zamir whether Ariel Sharon could remain a minister in the government after the Kahan. Commission, which investigated the massacre in the Beirut refugee camps, recommended he be ousted from his post as defense minis-

Zamir should have told Begin to. read the commission's report and make his own decision. Instead he gave his affirmative ruling, approving Sharon's continued membership in the government, thus making a political issue into a legal one. At the same time, the post of

attomey-general was garbed in a . judicial mantle. Accepting the attorney-general's advice became mandatory for the government and for the prime minister.

Arych Deri was ousted as a minister as a maner of law, because the attomey-general so advised. prime minister Rabin in a format. legal opinion, which the High · · · · · Court upheld.

Miri Rotem

Psychic Astrologer

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on Urth dillo and a photo.

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مداسين والمعاد والمقاص

ALLAN E. SHAPIRO

A solid piece of advice

Both Rabin and Deri reacted in a -similar fashion. Rabin wanted to get himself a different lawyer. However, the High Court held that he was suck with the one he bad. He wasn't even allowed to get another lawyer to present his point of view in court.

Deri was satisfied with his lawyer. He could be forgiven if he wanted to get himself a different attorney-general.

WHERE all this is leading is only too clear. The attorney-general is working himself out of a job. The long-term process is similar to what has already taken place with regard to judicial commissions of inquiry. ۰.

The new attorneygeneral should recommend his own absence from

cabinet meetings

No government, except in very special circumstances, will decide to create such a commission. They not only are fact-finders, but they also make recommendations - on both personnel and policy.

What government, if it believes that it has a popular mandate to make decisions in these areas. would take the risk of setting op a judicial commission of inquiry? Judicial commissions of inquiry have become too powerful for their own good. So has the attorney-general, if he is set up as an inhouse arbiter of ethical standards within the government. It weakens

his ability to perform as legal adviser to the government and its spokesman before the judicial bar. No wonder successive prime ministers have sought legal assispance elsewhere.

Ya'acov Ne'eman and Ram Caspi drafted the pardon petition for the national unity government during the GSS Affair in 1986. Caspi was called upon once again to handle the legal tangles with the

Americans after Jonathan Pollard's arrest for espionage,

Elvakim Rubinstein, the newly designated attorney-general, should understand this subject thoroughly from his experience as cabinet secretary, uoder both Yitzhak Sbamir and Yitzhak Rabin.

In fact, in 1991 be and Shamir agreed that Rubiostein's otle would be changed to include the designation of counsel to the prime minister.

No change whatsoever appears to have been contemplated in Rubinstein's duties, which already included many functions legal in oature. The attorney-general, Yosef Harish, charged that the change in otle of the cabinet secretary was a serious infringement of the prerogatives of his office, and the plan was dropped.

If the attorney-general really becomes an outsider from the point of view of the government, chosen, perhaps, like a judge, as MK Shaul Yahalom, chairman of the Knesset law committee has proposed, it is almost inevitable that there will be a counsel to the prime minister, in fact if not in name. This would fit the pattern set by the direct election of the prime minister.

Like an American president, he would have his own legal counsel, apart from the attorney-general. When Franklin Roosevelt instituted the practice, with the appointment of Samuel Rosenman as counsel to the president, the otle of the office was changed in special counsel to the president, to assuage the apprehensions and injured pride of the attorney-genecal.

Netanyahu is no different from his immediate predecessors if he wants his own lawyer. Rubinstein can fill the bill and also preserve the rule of law.

To do so, he should project a more modest conception of his office than has become fashionable in this age of legal imperialism. Absenting himself from cabinet meetings would be a salutary beginning.

The writer is a legal and policical commentator.

just one of outnerous people who, over the centuries, claimed to have met the man who struck Jesus on his way to the crucifizion and was consequently condemned to roam the world without ever having a patch of it to call his OWD

A plethora of prominent writers from Goethe to Gorky were fascinated by this character, who lent himself so easily to metaphor.

like Cbristian Some, Schubart's Der ewige Jude, described the despair that overcame the Wandering Jew after his failure to die in battle, fire and tempest; others, like William Wordsworth, returning from an arduous bike across France where he had left an illegid mate child, echoed their own travails through him.

For us Israelis, the Wandering Jew is neither echo, metaphor, oor myth; he is a palpable reality which, if absentee voting becomes legal, may turn into thousands of Wandering Jews emerging on election day from their caves anywhere betweeo New York and Melbourne in a fascinating attempt to attach the ewige Jude to his roots. Some Zionists also have a

Wandering Jew myth which, like Stalin's "rootless cosmopolitanism" propaganda against a predominantly Jewisb iotelligentsia, sees emigration as something in between tribal treason and religious blasphemy.

According to this attitude, those who seek their fortunes abroad are "a residue of wimps," as Yitzhak Rabin once described them. Surely, then, like Pilate, Cain and Prometheus, they deserve a timeess punishment.

After all, other emigrants merely abandon their fellow goyim; the yordim abandon us!

The thought that emigradon is itself a form of voting, albeit with one's feet apparently oever occurred to the opponents of the proposed bill, most of whom conspicuously represent Israel's tradioonal, Labor-led elite. Yet emigradon - at least since Abraham, the first yored, substituted a destitute Canaan for a prospering Egypt - can be traced primarily in one

thing: livelihood.

Yet, rather than exploring the ally came here. They were usureasons for the abandonment of ally idealists in search of a purer this country by its best and bright- life, sometimes Meyer Lansky est, people like MK Yossi Sarid types who had more prosaic rea-

The thousands who have left

He may emerge in his thousands from the caves of the Diaspora for Israel's next elections - and why not?

are seeking refuge in cheap patrisons for fleeing their places of otism, asking how citizens who birth. are physically distant can decide the fate of a country at war. Lurking behind this attitude is a deep-seated disdain for the abroad Diaspora phenomenon per se, an

attitude not unlike that of anosemiosm. Zionist dogma has traditionally rejected Diaspora-tolerant views, whether those of classical Reform, which thought the Jews were a uon-nation destined to dwell among other nations as a sort of spiritual fertilizer; those of the volkists, who contended that the Jews were a nation, but one which, every few geocrations. builds new geographic centers; or the post-1967 American-Jewish view, which seeks a Babylon-Jerusalem parity between a proud state of Israel and an affluent

Western Jewry. Israelis, for their part, preferred to follow in the footsteps of David Ben-Gurion, who, even in the early 1950s, couldn't part with his

skille

The point is that practically none sought in Israel the economic opportunities they lacked

But it's time they did.

FOR THAT to happen we here must cease to invest energy in massagiog away the emigrants' guilt. Instead, their departure should prod us into shaping an Israel to which people will flock not only for mental refuge or physical asylum, but because it's a dam good place to live, by anyone's standards.

Moreover, half a century after its establishment Israel should openly admit that the Diaspora is not a tolerable anomaly, but a uniquely strategic asset, possibly equal in value to our nuclear capability.

No other small nation has such an efficient tool with which to exert pressure and promote its interests across the world. Absentee voting

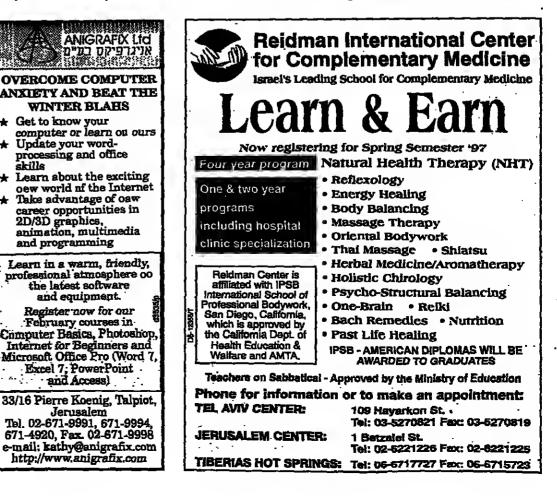
But whether or nor the Diaspora impresses anyone as a power-: house, who if not we Israelis, should realize that the Wandering Jew is no monster.

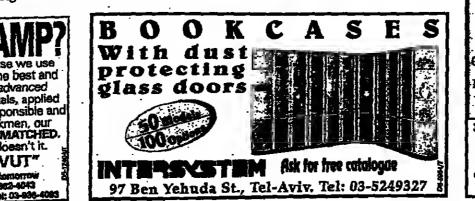
Anosemites thought of him as a monument to their religious truth; in fact he merely reflected their own narrow-mindedness.; Similarly, the same Israel that traditionally preferred to see in, ils emigranis' flight anyone's failure but its own, now assumes they would contaminate the political process.

The truth is that an emigrant's vote, a reflection of the tears, hopes and kin he left behind, would contribute an integral part to Israel's poliocal mosaic.

Finally, redeeming the Wandering Jew from his rootlessness would achieve what, according to the Christian myth, was not supposed to happen uotil the Second Coming. And that alone would be fun to witness.

The writer is a member of The Jerusalem Post editorial staff.





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WORLD NEWS

Friday, January 31, 1997 The Jerusalem Post

Yeltsin returns to Kremlin office

From Post news agencies

MOSCOW - President Boris Yelisin was shown on television working in the Kremlin yesterday for the second time this week — demonstrating he is retaining command of the ship of state while recovering from pneumonia.

A brief, five-second film broadcast by Russia's independent NTV network showed Yeltsin smiling broadly as he greeted the country's Constitutional Court chairman.

Yeltsin looked slightly hunched but appeared to be moving easily as he walked to his chair.

"He's gaining. It's obvious from his mood and activity," said presidential press secretary Sergei Yastrzhembsky.

In the late moming Yeltsin's lineousine with its presidential flag swept at high speed through Moscow, led by a four-wheel drive car packed with bodyguards. The flashing lights and siren aroused litthe interest among passers by. The television footage showed Yeltsin smiling

broadly as he received the court leader. Vladimir Tumanov, in his office for 30 minutes.

He moved slowly to his table. The film was then cut to show him sitting with Tumanov and talking in a relaxed manner.

At one point, the president, speaking in his characteristic low, growling voice, appeared to be expressing a desire to return to a more active life.

'Don't hurry," Tumanov could be heard saying.

In a brief interview following the shots of Yeltsin, Tumanov added: "He looks bener in real life than he does on television ... though it is clear that the illness is still having its effect on him." Kremlin spokesman Sergei Yastrzhembsky said Yeltsin might hold several more meetings today, including one with his chief of staff Anatoly Chubais.

It was Yeltsin's third visit to the Kremlin since he was released from hospital on January 20 after treat-ment for pneumonia. He has been spending most of his time in the secluded Gorky-9 official residence outside Moscow.

Yeltsin, who turns 66 tomorrow and is due to hold talks outside Moscow with French President Jacques Chirac on Sunday, has visited the Kremlin only rarely since be won a second term in office on July 3.

He was absent with heart problems for most of the second half of last year — he underwent open heart surgery on November 5 — and he fell ill again with

pneumonia on January 6. The president's long absence has fuelled specula-tion that he is too ill to rule Russia, and a brief appearance on television on Tuesday did little to calm the rumor mill.

Yeltsin looked alert in the television footage, but he bad clearly lost a lot of weight since he fell ill. The film was heavily edited, making it hard to judge his state of health.

Yeltsin's opponents have been lobbying for him to step down.

Earlier this month Deputies in the State Duma, the lower house of parliament, discussed a motion to force Yeltsin out of office for health reasons, although Duma legal experts say it has little chance of success under the constitution.

Aides say Yeltsin has mainly been working on papers since he left hospital. A major topic is the annual state of the nation address to both houses of parliament, expected late next month.

He has also discussed Monday's presidential election in rebel Chechnya, in which the relatively moderate Aslan Mashadov has emerged as the clear win-

Moscow has ruled out his demands for secession and faces tough negotiations on the issue.

Blast blows

hole in

California

courthouse

VALLEJO, California (AP) -

An explosion felt blocks away



Gandhi remembered

A Hindu priest (right) chants hymns as Tushar Gandhi (second on right), great grandson of Mahatma Gandhi, sits with his wife and children on the banks of the Ganges River besides an urn carrying the ashes of modern India's founding father in Allahabad yesterday. The ashes were immersed in the river by Tushar Gandhi on the 49th anniversary of Gandhi's assassination, after be won control of the urn from a bank where it had lain unclaimed in a vault since 1950.

Anti-Christian rampage

in Indonesia

Tearful Algerian president leads labor leader's funeral

PARIS (Reuter) - Thousands of the past two weeks. Algerians, including a tearful President Liamine Zeroual and the army chief Mohamed Lamari, anended the funeral yesterday of slain union leader Abdelhak Benhamouda in Algier's El-Alia

martyrs' cemetery. Witnesses said Zeroual, shocked by the death of a man known as one of his strongest political supporters, could not hold back lears, which ran down his cheeks.

Benbamouda's wife, three daughters and two sons, and mother wept in the cemetery.

Security forces were heavily deployed around the union headquarters where Benhamouda was gunned down on Tuesday and where his body lay in state, and at

Traffic stopped across Algeria at p.m. in response to a call by the

blasted a hole in the courthouse here yesterday and knocked out scores of windows, the third recent incident involving explosives in this San Francisco area city. The blast around 3:30 a.m. shatwhere the "prayer for the absent" was said. tered windows in the Solono

Despite the government blaming Moslem rebels, independent newspapers and many ordinary injuries, Algerians asked whether they, or olitical rivals, were behind the

Benhamouda's last words -"Kamel, my brother, they have betrayed us" - gasped out before he died and reported by an department. Authorities said the building Algerian newspaper, added to the

would reopen today. FBI agenis were today to help

JAKARTA (AP) - Thousands of Moslems ransacked churches, banks, shops and cars yesterday after a Chinese Christian trader reportedly insulted Islam by complaining about loud evening prayers, police and witnesses said.

Police reported no casualties and said the violence was brought under control after three truckloads of troops armed with automatic weapons moved into the town of Rengasdengklok, 50 km east of Jakarta.

Police Sgt. Jumhalim said the unidentified Chinese trader sought police protection after the mob set fire to his home and shop. No one bas been arrested, said Jumhalim, who like many Indonesians uses only one name.

Witnesses said thousands of angry Moslems armed with stones and sticks came out of mosques and homes after morning prayers and went on a rampage.

Four churches, dozens of shops, two banks and a Chinese temple were ransacked. The mob also stoned and wrecked 18 cars, setting fire to some of them.

Smoke billowed from one church that was set: ablaze, said Joko, a nearby resident. The troops set up road blocks on main streets, warning citizens to stay away from the stricken area, he said. Joko said the riot was apparently set off by a

rumor that a Chinese shopkeeper, a Christian,. had complained about the loud prayers at a mosque in the evenings. It was not clear if the trader actually made the remarks.

The ethnic-religious riot is the latest in a series of clashes in the past few months between the two communities.

Ethnic Chinese, mostly Christians traders, are far wealthier than the vast majority of Moslems in Indonesia. About 90 percent of Indonesia's 200 million people are Islam. A curfew has been imposed in the area to prevent further outbreaks of violence, Indonesian television reported.

About 40 masked men ransacked a Roman Catholic group's office in a remote Indonesian province on Borneo Island and set ablaze a truck and two motorcycles.

Earlier this month, 5,000 indigenous people called Dayaks, who are mostly Christians, rawapaged in the same province, attacking property belonging to Moslem settlers from other parts of Indonesia.

In December, four people were killed and more than 100 buildings burned in Moslem-Christian riots in the West Java town of Tasikmalaya. Five people were killed in October when thousands of Moslems in the East Java town of Situbondo attacked dozens of churches.

union for one minute of silence in his memory. The radio said that in his home town Constantine, workers rallied at the local cemetery

County Courthouse as well as at least four other buildings in the area. There were believed to be no

Investigators found a wire trailing from the courthouse and around a nearby comer, and it's "reasonable to assume"it was involved, said David Robinson. spokesman for the county sheriff's

Zaire army on defensive on many fronts

El-Alia cemetery, reserved for Algeria's martyrs. The government blamed

Moslem fundamentalists for his · death.

"Hundreds of Ninjas (anti-lerrorist troops) were on guard, with dogs trained to delect bombs," one witness said, a reminder of bomb-

pers all asked: "Who killed Benhamouda?", a powerful figure only in his 40s who was preparing ings in Algiers and elsewhere in to start his own political party.

Algeria's independent newspa-

killing.

myslery.

motives.

US report blasts rights in China, other countries

WASHINGTON (AP) - China's security apparatus has succeeded in silencing all public dissent against the Communist Party and govemment, the State Department said yesterday in a global human rights report that also found deplorable rights conditions in Nigeria, Cuba and Burma.

"The Chinese government in 1996 continued to commit widespread and well-documented human rights abuses, in violation of internationally accepted norms, stemming from the authorities' intolerance of dissent, fear of unrest and the continuing absence of laws protecting basic freedoms." the report said.

We mourn the passing of a dear friend in New York PHILIP GORODETZER 97

Our hearts are with his beloved Paula, Moshe, Harvey, Leya and their families Bobbin Kleinberg and Oded Pollig

To Steve Brenner We offer our deepest condolences

on the death of your

Father 51

The Management and Workers of Israel Oceanographic and Limnological Research

On the sh'loshim of the death of our beloved

HENRI POHORYLES 7"1

We will gather for the unveiling at his graveside at the Shikun Vatikim Cemetery, Natanya, on Tuesday, February 4, 1997 (27 Shvat 5757), at 1:30 p.m.

Following the unveiling, a memorial ceremony will be held at 3 p.m. at the Park Hotel, 7 Rehov David Hamelekh, Netanya.

Gliberte and the Family

Those words, the ambush in in the investigation, said Clifford central Algiers and the escape in the heavily-policed city of the Holly of the bureau's Sacramenio gunmen raised a clamor of quesoffice. tions over his killing and its

The hole in the courthouse wall was about the size of a manhole, KGO radio said. A resident told the station the blast "was just like dynamite going off in the back yard." Authorities have said they believe there is a connection between the earlier incidents.

A bomb made of 30 sticks of dynamite and blasting caps was found in a rucksack leaning against the wall of the John F. Kennedy library on Saturday. It had not been wired to go off.

A second device exploded about 12 hours later in front of a set of Wells Fargo ATM machines a few km away. No one was injured and no

money was taken. Investigators speculate the automatic tellers were the intended target of the first bomb, but the attempt was aborted for some reason and the bomb abandoned.

KINSHASA (Reuter) - Zaire's sands and were now also threatening the town of Watsa, about 200 counter-offensive against rebels has run into difficulty with the km inside Zaire. Both Uganda and mercenary-backed government Rwanda deny that their troops are involved in fighting inside Zaire. army on the defensive on many

fronts, government and military Military sources said Zairean soldiers and foreign mercenaries were A senior defence ministry offibased in Watsa, at one point under cial in the capital Kinshasa said the command of the Belgian mercerebels backed by Rwandan troops nary leader Christian Tavemier. were heading towards the mining

The accounts from Kinshasa province of Shaba and were withwere in line with reports from Rwanda that rebels in castorn Zaire were pushing south and Ugandan troops backing the rebels had reached the Upper west, opening new fronts to frus-Zaire town of Bunia, close to the trate the army's counter-offen-Ugandan border, which the Zaire sive.

They said rebel targets were Kalemie, their leader Laurent Kabila's home town on Lake Tanganyika, and Lubutu, a key lown on the road to the Zairean army's main base at Kisangani.

"The strategy is clearly to stretch out the front as far as pos-

Billions in pensions paid to Nazis

sources said yesterday.

in 70 km of the town of Kalemie.

army earlier claimed to have part-

eral fronts," a defence ministry

official in Kinshasa said yesterday,

crossed into Zaire in their thou-

who served in Hitler's army,

including some who were in the

notorious Waffen SS, are receiv-

ing German disability pay while

88 Holocaust survivors in the

Baltic nation receive nothing from

These reports come amid new

pressure to provide some kind of

compensation for an estimated

13,000 Holocaust survivors in

Eastern Europe who have been

excluded from previous repara-

tions programs. The SS pensions

are higher than the compensation

proposed for survivors from the East Bloc.

A spokesman for the German

Ministry of Labor confirmed that

funds are paid to war criminals but

said that nothing could be changed

for "constitutional reasons,"

One recipient is the former SS Jaupisturmfuhrer Wilhelm

Mohnke, a confidant of Adolf

Hitler who was commandant of

the "Fuhrerbunker" in Berlin dur-

ing Hitler's last days. According to

the US Justice Department,

"There is very substantial evi-

dence pointing to Wilhelm

Panorama said.

Haupisturmfuhrer

Germany.

"We are having to fight on sev-

He said the Ugandans had

ly retaken, the sources said.

asking not to be identified.

By MARILYN HENRY and news agencies

Germany is paying billions of Deutsche marks in disability pensions to thousands of Nazi "war criminals," according to a German television report aired yesterday. More than 1.1 million people are receiving a total of DM 13 billion under the German "Social Compensation And Assistance To War Victims" law, according to the Panorama program. To qualify, one must have been injured as a result of war service, without regard to the nature of that war service. Ignatz Bubis, head of Germany's Jewish community, told Panorama that disability payments to suspect-ed Nazi war criminals makes "a

mockery of the real victims." The federal Labor Ministry said Nazi war criminals are not supposed to receive disability pay but conceded there are loopholes. "This is an unfortunate fact."

said a ministry official, who insisted his name not be used. Gerhard Schreiber, a German military historian, estimated that 50,000 "war criminals" are receiving the monthly pensions, the Panorama report said. Last month, The Times of London reported that thousands of SS veterans - including nearly 4,000 in the US and Mohnke's personal involvement in Britain - receive disability pensions from Germany. Panorama said 179 Latvians

the perpetration of Nazi war crimes" - for his role in the massacre of 72 American POWs in 1944 during the Battle of the Bulge, Panorama said.

About 1.1 million German war veterans or their families are receiving disability payments nnder the 1950 Federal Benefits Law, the weekly newspaper Die Zeit reported.

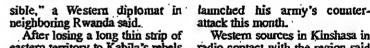
These include not just normal soldiers but also about 50,000 suspected "war criminals, (former) members of criminal organizations like the Waffen SS or their wives," Die Zeit said.

Die Zeit documented a number of cases.

It told of Wolfgang Lehnigk-Emden, who was convicted in absentia in October 1994 by an Italian court and sentenced to life in prison for ordering the 1943 massacre of 22 Italians — mostly women and children.

The former lieutenant in Hitler's army is receiving a monthly dis-ability payment of 708 marks (\$431), Die Zeir said.

The Labor Ministry confirmed Lehnigk-Emden receives a disability pension, but only because be was never convicted by a German court.



After losing a long thin strip of eastern territory to Kabila's rebels radio contact with the region said late last year, Zaire's ailing

Public Commission for the Review of oniorehensive Legislation for the Handicapped

APPEAL TO THE PUBLIC

The Minister of Justice and the Minister of

Labor and Social Affairs have recently

appointed a public commission to review

comprehensive policy for persons with

The public is invited to offer suggestions.

Anyone with suggestions

should write to Dr. Dahlia Sommer,

Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs,

0 Rehov Yad Harutzim, Jerusalem 91012.

se mailgour occur onts to the toown edges broary 29, 1997, attaching place and address Do not enclose oppurates. Several persons may be gould to appeter before the commission

disabilities (handicapped).

Watsa had already fallen to rebels President Mobuta Sese Seko with Ugandan backing.

Foressientes

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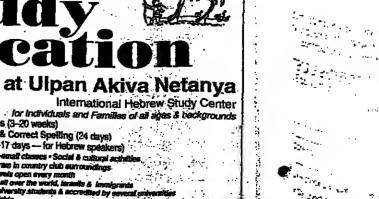


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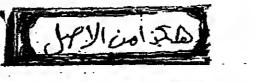
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The Jerusalem Post Friday, January 31, 1997

Syriaspeak: Icy winds blow from the North

NEWSinFOCUS

Experts are worried about the clear message sent by Syria in an extraordinary interview given by its US envoy, **Douglas Davis** reports from London

Talid Mualem, Syria's ambassador Washington and leader of its negotiating team with Israel, offers little hope that Syria will soften its position to facilitate a resumption of peace talks and warns of unstated "options" if the talks fail. He also delicately lifts the yell

which shrouds perceptions in that most tightly controlled and opaque state in the region. Mualem's reflections are the

result of a series of three interviews conducted over a period of time ending in late November with Linda Butler, managing editor of the Journal of Palestine Studies, a quarterly published in Washington by the Beirut-based Institute for Palestine Studies. The interview. will appear in the journal's winter edition.

Nor, say veteran observers of the

interview, they say,

Damascus regime, is Mualem speaking for himself; rather, he is

age Those who have access to advance copies regard it with alarm because of its distortion. intransigence, inflexibility and, not least, its implied threat.

The

faithfully executing the wishes and expressing the disingenuous, but carefully calculated sentimenus of Syrian President Hafez strengthens the view of those who argue that Syria is not serious about making peace with Israel. In the absence of its former Soviet

atte internetien

S. Tradier and S. Sarage

يصحب والمعاوي والمح



Syria's ambassador Mualem: The Golan is our territory. It is a sacred cause for the Syrian people, and we will continue to struggle until we recover this territory to the lines of June 4, 1967. (Per Hanstorp)

candor for a senior Syrian official, could be the opening diplomatic salvo from Damascus in an offensive that is intended to lead to military conflict. . In the interview, Muslem main-

When Rabin

self to with-

representing

committed him-

drawal, he was

Israel, not him-

self personally.

tained: · The late prime minister Yitzhak Rabin had undertaken to withdraw from the Golan to the June 4, 1967, lines and that this had been reaffirmed by his succesally, its participation in the peace sor, Shimon Peres.

process has been designed principant Rahin and Peres had agreed to :

an early-warning ground station in Safed). Unless Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu accepts the Rabin/Peres commitment to withdraw to the June 4, 1967, lines and their commitment to equal, mutual security arrangements, "all options are open He also said Damascus had refrained from assisting Peres's election campaign because Syria did not wish to interfere in Israel's domestic affairs.

And he said Syria had refused to

'We won't permit a ground station in our territory manned by the Israelis.' ---Walid Mualem

message to the oegotiators say-ing he wanted to "fly high and fast.

Mualem blamed the current impasse on Peres, first for calling early elections and then for suspending negotiations over what the Syrian envoy described as "so-called terrorism" following the February/March suicide bomb-

iogs. He insisted that Syria regarded Rabin's commitment to a total withdrawal from the Golan as binding on the current government

"has to be noted."

cation that needs to be given to the Syrians."

The official also said the US does not believe the Syrians have closed the door on resuming talks. The official added that the US will have a better idea about how to bridge the gap when Prime Minister Bioyamin Netanyahu visits with US President Clinton early next month.

Asked how to square Mualem's statements with Christopher's letter, the official said: "It means the Syrians want to talk. They want to set out a position publicly that puts them in the best possible light. This is not designed to make it impossible to start the talks.

"A bridging formula is pos-

explained the apparent contradiction between Syrian Ambassador to the US Walid Mualem's statements on the withdrawal agreement and the Christopher lener as the Syrians' "tendency to ascribe formal status to things less than formal," which he said

While the US has not made clear what was contained in the Christopher letter, the official said: "Suffice it to say, our position has been made clear to all the parties concerned about what did or didn't happen [in the talks]. I don't think there's any additional clarifi-

US:

Syria

has not

closed

the door

HILLEL KUTTLER

WASHINGTON

senior US official



Friday, January 31, 1997 The Jerusalem Post



FEATURES

By URIEL HEILMAN

From left to right in the drawing:

Shaul Yahalom National Religious Party MK. chairman of the Knesset Law Committee, scoffed at his party's cabinet ministers' attempt to deny having advance knowledge of a Bar-On for Hebron deal. He later retracted a statement (on orders from Hammer) he had made to the press that the NRP's ministers

abstained from the vote for Bar-On's appointment because they knew of the alleged conspiracy.

Elyakim Rubinstein

a lematem court district judge and former cabinet secretary and peace negotiator who was named the new attorney general on Sunday, winning easy cabinet approval.

ney-general, ordered police to investigate the allegations against Bar-On and Deri.

Avala Hasson Channel I TV reponent Allenad

that Deri promised Shas's support for the Hebron agreement in exchange for the appointment of Bar-On as attomey-general in an arrangement with Lieberman. According to Hasson, Bar-On was then to grant Edna Arbel Deri a plea bargain for the long-State attorney and acting attor-

Hasson has refused to reveal her source of information about the conspiracy charges, but has declared that her allegations do not quit politics. implicate the prime minister.

Ovadia Yosef Israeli Broadcasting Authority Shas spiritual leader, says that Director-General, has agreed that

· because of his balachic ruling Shas MKs voted for the Hebron deal ... He also rejected Deri's request to

Mordechai Kirschenbaum

be will have to resign if Chamiel 1 bungled the story.

David Appel. Prominent Likud activist and millionaire businessman: 15.

Avigdor Lieberman Prime Minister's Office director-general. Has been accused by Hasson of consorting with Deri and Bar-On in a deal in which the alleged to have suggested Bar bargain in exchange for the lat-On's appointment to Deri

Showdown in the not-so-OK Knesset corral

id Channel I recklessly set off noisy firecrackers on Politicsville's Main Street or did someone really hand it potentially lethal dynamite sticks with which to drive the outlaws out of town?

That remains to be seen, but what is sure is that the explosion did not have the same effect on all those within its range.

more, that no matter what hap-Shaken and bruised. Shas conpens in this country, his name is siders itself the victim of a deliberate, dastardly act. The Likud dragged into it as if he were evil personified. Even his enemies was threatened, surveyed the damage, and, judging it was minmust stop and ponder whether imal. is now eager for a fight to this campaign of demonization has not reached grotesque prosettle accounts. Labor took cover portions. and tried hard not to get involved in a shootout which could end what it hopes might still be a quit because his mentor Rabbi beautiful friendship with the Óvadia Yosef forbids it. Yosef knows full well that without the intended targets. The National dynamic. charismatic Deri. his Religious Party is scared lest movement will fade away. Deri traces of the powder be discovreally is indispensable to Shas Mererz gleefully lost no time in rushing to the sheriff, loudly clamoring that he send out the posse. Shas really took the brunt of the assault. Because its leader Arych Deri has already had his run-ins with the law, he and his sidekicks fear that no one will believe them, that it has become all too easy to frame Deri. Once Channel 1 lowered its sights last weekend and cautiously removed Prime Minister and his legal travails have served Binyamin Netanyahu from its hit to bestow upon him the aura of a manyr rather than to cause suplist, Deri loomed largest on its porters to distance themselves. wanted poster. That may be why many in Shas The fact that thousands of Shas say that he is not faking this time faithful have begun reciting when he talks about quitting pol-itics. Deri has in the past psalms for him daily speaks for itself. announced his impending depar-ture but never rode off into the So Deri may be personally despondent, but Shas may yet sunset, a fact which invited a profit. MK Shlomo Benizri - the cynical reception for his latest closest to a Deri competitor that announcement. But Labor and Shas has produced - dared TV to Welfare Minister Eli Yishai "please produce just one little attests that "Deri really took this grain of the million tons of to heart. Yes, he has a heart and poured concrete of evidence they

Shock waves from the Bar-On/Hebron scandal have been felt throughout the Knesset. But not all the parties will suffer equally, Sarah Honig reports

he has feelings and he has been under relentless fire for seven have nothing because I know no whole years. He just feels that he one instructed our ministers to has had enough, that he doesn't need this, that he can't take any support the Bar-On appointment in the cabinet and hence there was no possibility of a deal on the Hebron issue. Rabbi Yosef was even upset that our ministers did not consult him on the vote.' Yishai confirms this: "Were the nominee a leading anti-religious figure it would have been an issue for a party line. But as it Be that as it may. Deri will not was, we saw no need to oppose Bar On. Besides, Deri could not

have cooked up a plea bargain with Bar-On because such deals are made with the prosecutors and the police, with the assent of the judges in the case. an

claim to possess. I know they; screen in bold print - that "it is important to stress that in this affair Prime Minister Binyamin Neianyahu himself was not privy to the plea bargain Bar-On promised Deri.

Hasson sought to maintain that this is not tantamount to backtracking and doeso't-detract from the importance and credibility of her story, but no one would buy this in the Likud, where there is no doubt that her real target was Netanyahu.

luminaries excitedly talked about this story bringing the government down and about Watergate paling in comparison to Bibigate." said Likud Knesset faction chairman Michael Eitan,

"An investigation must be

launched into who is responsible

for the fact that Netanyahu's

name was dragged into this,

election and couldn't reconcile itself to the result, so it bad become the bon ton to snipe at bim and even at his toddler sons. The IBA just did not know when to stop, those close to Netanyahu areue.

... His-spokesman Shai, Bazak wants an apology for the fact that for two days state TV let the public understand that the prime minister is responsible for a horrid conspiracy described in mafia adjectives.

That this went on without substantiation, and despite the most emphatic denials on our part, is no trifling matter that we can overlook. This is a criminal charge. But then suddenly,

No matter what uncomfortable contortions the NRP performs, it cannot escape the fact that the story began with it. On the day the Bar-On appoint-

ment was approved by the cabi-net, reports say that the NRP was dissatisfied with, the fact, that Shas's ministers supported the appointment. The NRP was said to have hinted at prior coordination with Sbas and to have accused Sbas of selling out Hebron to ensure the appointment of Bar-On, who would obligingly help Deri. This was immediately featured in all the electronic and print media, including the Post.

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lot more success. As the antagonists prepared to draw their sixsbooters. Labor prudently got out of the way. Considering its trigger-happy response team, it bas remained inordinately pacifist througbout the entire blow-up. The candidates for party leadership said nothing at all for a long time and the present leader, Shimon Peres, explained that "there is no point in opening fire when we don't know the facts. If the police investigation finds that there really was such a conspiracy theo we will let our ootraged voices be heard. But what if it isn't so? Why stick our necks out? This is too serious a matter for knee-jerk reactions. We would do better to wait and see. No political or ideological differences exist bere. It's best to evince a little sense and responsibility."

'Deri has a heart and he has feelings and he has been under relentless fire for seven whole years. He just feels that he has had enough.'

-Labor and Welfare Minister Eli Yishai

extent.

that they already won to some

That victory came quietly after the thundering din of the original

detonation. A week ago Channel

l reporter Ayala Hasson stated

unequivocally - and her words

were highlighted across the

THE NEW ROAD ATLAS

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late in the trial either. To my mind TV is in deep trouble. They didn't just circulate gossip. They charged Deri with a crime. They can't back it up. This is no minor slip but a big fall. The Likud views things simi-

larly but being apparently less vulnerable, it is far more confident, aggressive and eager for the showdown it has long sought. The party may have been stunned by the first blast, but when it realized that no grievous harm was done it began returning fire with all shotguns blazing. Many in the Likud actually feel

whether it was due to gross carelessness or to premeditated malice and why it took over 48 hours of mudslinging for the IBA to admit that Netanyahu is not involved in any conspiracy," he said. Eitan continued to say that "It

ISRAEL - NEW ROAD

cannot be that these people treat the state microphone in their hands as a license to malign and insinuate at will and without impunity."

Gil Samsonov, the Likud's representative on the IBA board of directors, is taking the matter to the police and the state attomey. The very fact that TV changed its tune about the PM shows its story is false," he asserts. Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi demanded that "TV disclose all the evidence it claims to possess so that we can see if it is indeed a million tons of poured concrete or a micro-nulligram of fiberglass."

Feeling vindicated and indignant, the Likud is now on the warpath, sure that retribution will at some point be exacted because this time TV crossed a thick red line. Netanyahu often charged that the IBA opposed his

'Please produce just one little grain of the million tons of poured concrete

of evidence.'

- Shlomo Benizri

almost on the sly, they oriefly note that Netanyahu was not session that a deal had been cooked up with Shas. Maybe involved. The least that could be they got some information that expected is a public apology for Shas wanted to gain something on the side. Our ministers are a smear campaign of the worst sort. This will not be swept under responsible level-headed people who do not invent things." the rug, forgotten and forgiven."

THE NRP is already quivering because of the Likud's vengeful fury. In the religious sector, the NRP has taken some hard knocks because of the prevalent speculation that it is either directly or indirectly responsible for the explosion. Being even remotely suspected of snitching will not and asked for clarification. earn it points in its constituency. especially as the upshot may be the weakening of the national camp's own government.

ATLAS

scoop was not new. Hasson just came out against a lukewarm embellished and elaborated on it. Labor bureau resolution calling for an inquiry. There were some The question in the political whispers around him that this is arena is whether anyone whispered in her ear and let ber in on all due to the fact that he hasn't real evidence or on more innuen-

Though Channel I prefers to gloss over the fact that the basic elements of its story were already out, the NRP is haunted by its "original sin." NRP MK Sbaul Yahalom succeeded in bringing it back to the headlines when he couldn't resist a potshot at bis arch party's foe. "Our ministers suspected at the cabinet

This was a beadache Yahalom's party did not need. Shas grasped at the Yahalom utterance as fur-

> As soon as Sarid heard Channel I's story, be speedily submitted a complaint to the police. "I know the TV story sounded unbelievable but we have seen so much that is unbe-

"This matter had to be acted upon, which is why I bad to involve the police. We are not a milquetoasr opposition like Labor. As I see it our job is to take Bibi Netanyahu, pack him up and run him out of town '

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MERETZ CONSIDERS this

yet lost his hope of entering a national unity coalition, a move which will cement his stature as the Labor No. I. For that be not only needs not to hit Netanyahu below the belt but most of all he cannot alienate Deri who controls 10 Knesset seats. Deri, despite bis low spirits, still holds the key to any national unity move.

The bound

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another example of "the fact that Labor has not adjusted itself to its role in the opposition. They think they are still running things and they need to equivocare, explain, consider and refrain from vexing the religious parties. They must adhere to some unseen center and heaven forbid not veer to the left," as Yossi Sarid charges acerbically.

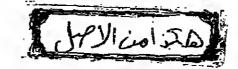
ther proof that the NRP is behind the row, but, worse still, Netanyahu put in a phone call to NRP leader Zevulun Hammer In other words, he wanted to know on whose side the NRP

was. Hammer quickly expressed lievable proven as real. regret over "Yahalom's unfortu-nate words. We opposed Bar-On not because we knew about a

> Providing, of course, that the lawmen do not conclude differ -- (

nefarious deal but only because we didn't know him," he rushed to explain. Political observers bet that after Shas, the most sleep is being lost by the NRP.

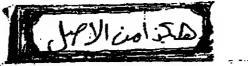
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The Jerusalem Post Friday, January 31, 1997



FEATURES

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etal. Lieberman, has denied all Sinas MK. Chamlel Deri charges. Sinas MK. Chamlel J. identified built as the mastermand of the Bas Assaf Heller. On for Helmen deal, to gon relief. Police Inspector General, said for front his logal woes. He is carren, will investigate all sizpects, even dry project in the inspiret mining if it takes him to the Prime Train mark in Isaele businy. Has

The sparks are still showering in all directions from Channel 1's explosive story on the alleged political deal that swapped a vital Hebron vote for dumping Roni Bar-On in the attorney-general's chair.

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This is the domestic scandal that made it to the top of the international headlines and rocked Israeli politics to its foundations. It is being described as the biggest corruption scandal in the state's bisto-" ry, and the government hasn't seen the last of it.

It is a story in the Woodwardand-Bernstein tradition, the "big one" every political journalist

the dealt according to Hasson Zevilian Hantiner The Education admister sharply reminimized fellow NRP MK. Minister's Office. Yanalom for molicating in a state-

affair but quickly turned into the

director-general

But if it is true, it could mean the end of the government. "COMPLETE NONSENSE, lies and deceit," was Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's first reaction when Channel 1 reporter Ayala Hasson broke her major scoop on January 22. Everyone concerned spluttered in total and indignant denial.

As the Bar-On/Hebron conspiracy idea continues

to circulate, the role of the media may change from investigator to investigated, Michal Yudelman reports

investigation. Sources from his office said he would not hesitate to accept a lie-detector test. This was anier urunnul reponding. the story of Hebron exchanged for

lenged Channel 1 to turn any and the police should launch an investigation into her allegations. all evidence of a possible conspir-Netanyahu claims Deri never acy over to the police's investigapressed for Bar-On's appointment tive committee.

Roni Bar-On A dyed-in-the-wool Likud activist and criminal lawyer. Was appointed earlier this month as attorney general, but resigned a day later after his appointment attracted scathing

criticism from opposition leaders

and the press.

He denies having struck any deal with Deri.

Dan Avi-Yitzhak

Deri's attorney. Refused the position of attorney general since he is still committed to defending Deri against long-standing charges of fraud.

According to Hasson's allegations, Avi-Yitzhak opposed Bar-On's appointment as attorney general in a January 4 meeting with Netanyahu.

talk show, Stem found himself attacked by panelist Tommy Lapid - a former director-general of the Israel Broadcasting Authority - and a number of others.

They erupted into hoarse shouts when Stern said if the court issues an injunction ordering television to reveal its sources, he would "consider further steps," rather than acquiesce.

"There is definitely a feeling we're being attacked." conceded Stern afterwards, "We are not the defendants or the criminals. The ones who made a shady deal were the politicians, not the media which exposed it.

"All these demands for our

All eyes are on Channel 1

ment to the press that NRP mem-

bers knew of the alleged Bar-

On Den deal before the vote for

Binyamin Netanyahu

The prime minister said in

response to Hasson's report that

Bar-On's appointment.

Channel 1/government war. If the story is true, ministers and MKs agree the government may have to go. If it isn't, the television directors may start packing their bags. Israel Broadcasting Authority irector-general Mordechai Kirschenbaum agreed he would have to resign if television bungled minister demanded a thorough

it. And he will not travel alone.

assured us it had? And would lating that most sacred of the professional journalist's principles

Channel 1 expose its sources, vio- Bar-On had been going around for some time but no one dared go public for lack of a visible smoking

into the prime minister's involvement, or innocence, in the whole affair? And what was to be made of National Religious Party MK Shaul Yaholom's statement that "we knew there was a conspiracy behind Bar-On's appointment" followed by his hurried retraction?

AS POLITICIANS indignantly clamored for Channel 1's sources, with the amazingly active support from some of the media, Channel 1 staned teeping it had turned from investigator to investigated. It was Hasson and Halaby who became joint public enemies number one. Netanyahu led the charge with a sweeping attack at the media in general, whom he accused (not for the first time) of being run by his political rivals. When he again threatened to privatize Channel 1,

dreams of - corruption, conspiracy, coverup, veiled threats and darker. scheming. It led the BBC and US networks hourly news breaks for a day, it crackled in dozens of languages on radios worldwide from Oslo to India, Portugal to Kenya, and from the Gulf Arab states to North and South America. It started as the "Hebron/Bar-On"

A couple of days later the prime

The bombshell in a nutshell

ccording to Channel I news reporter Ayala Hasson, Roni Bar-On's short-lived appointment as attorney-general was part of a deal made with Shas MK Aryeh Deri, who is on a long-running trial for corruption. Deri allegedly assured the cabinet of Shas's support for the Hebron agreement in exchange for a plea bargain in his trial. The plea bargain would get him off with a conviction "without disgrace" which would enable him to continue his political career and be a minister.

The deal was allegedly concocted by the director-general of the prime minister's office Avigdor Lieberman, Deri, and the prominent Likud functionary and millionaire, David Appel. It is not clear at what stage Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu became familiar with the deal, if at all.

According to the story, Appel was the one who proposed Bar-On to Deri, saying "I have an attorney-general with wonderful qualities from our point of view." Deri then met Bar-On and the two sealed the pact.

Deri informed Lieberman and Netanyahu that Shas would quit the government unless Bar-On was appointed. Netanyahu and Lieberman advised Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi that Bar-On was the preferred candidate. A few days before the Hebron agreement, Deri heard that Avi-Yitzhak was the prime minister's favorite candidate. He announced Shas's objection to the Hebron accord.

Lieberman then hurried to Deri and promised again that Bar-On would be appointed. Shas removed its objection; the Hebron agreement and redeployment sailed through and Bar-On got his appointment. Briefly.

retracted the next day by a sta ment "The prime minister has no intention of taking any such test." Over the weekend, major cracks began to appear in the denial facade of those concerned. The cracks began to corroborate Hasson's story.

The most obvious was Justice Minister Tzahí Hanegbí's amended version. At first Hanegbí had gíven the cabinet the impression that the appointment was his idea. After the Channel 1 revelation, be "remembered" that the name was suggested to him by the Prime Minister's Office, Then there was Deri's own state-

Ehnd Ohnert

ment recalling how he had objected to the nomination of his attomey, Dan Avi-Yitzhak, for the state post. He even "threatened" the directorgeneral of the prime minister's office, Avigdor Lieberman, that if Avj-Yitzhak were chosen "you will have business with me." (This was afterwards described by Shas MK Shlomo Benizri as a friendly conversation.)

In addition, fellow Shas MK Arych Deri was quoted in last Friday's Ha'aret; as saying that Likud activist David Appel had suggested Bar-On's name to him a long time before the appointment. Avi-Yitzhak confirmed that he had been offered the post. At the same time, Yediot Aharonot senior columnist Nahum Barnea suggested the political rationale behind Bar-On's appointment and Shas's insistence on it, on the basis of his own independent sources.

All this was highly improper, certainly. But what about the crucial Hebron/Bar-On deal? Did Channel I have that "rock-hard" evidence which news director Rafik Halaby

have no suicidal tendencies.' double-checked, not only me but my superiors as well. We knew the

case would have to be capable of withstanding and winning a libel suit. Everything I reported was true.

At the same time, Channel 1 staff were rather baffled by the ambivalent reaction of the rest of the media to the television's mind-boggling scoop - a real Israeli Watergate.

On the one hand, admiration for Hasson was universal. On the other hand, it was not entirely untainted by professional jealousy. Some of her colleagues gave Hasson a reserved public pat on the back, then went on to chide Channel 1 for not providing more solid proof. They suggested the story should not have been published without such proof.

One reason for the sour grapes was that in some editorial offices.

eun or sources who would come on record.

as attorney general and that

Channel 1 is just trying to discred-

it the Netanyahu government.

Tzahi Hanegbi

brief legal career was launched at

Bar-On's firm where he did his

articles, is one of the prime minis-

ter's closest proteges. He chal-

The Justice Minister, whose

Channel 1's directors and Hasson remain calm and confident. "We "We also had the story two weeks knew that if we bungled it, God ago," Stem said. "But we didn't have the end of the thread. Last forbid, we'd have to pay dearly, week Hasson got some sources and we took that into considerawhich added crucial details and tion," Television Director-General Yair Stern said. "And believe me, enabled us to run with it." we're have no suicidal tendencies." Instead of plunging into the pub-Hasson said "we checked and lic scandal with glee, the media

this time it was vendetta. 'We knew that if we bungled this, we'd have to pay dearly, and we took that into consideration. And believe me, we

----Yair Stern

inexplicably turned inwards on themselves. There was plenty of meat for the sinking of teeth, as bemused ITV people are quick to point out.

The involvement of Deri, a man swirling in criminal charges, in the appointment of the state attorneygeneral, was especially unsavory and smacked of mafia tactics and banana-republic indignity, as politicians and legal experts rushed to point out. What's more, they noted. Deri is not even a minister. by virtue of the Supreme Court ruling that a man facing such serious charges is unworthy of sitting in the cabinet. So how come he on the appointment of the general of the State of Isra

And why did the press deeper into the shady co between Lieberman, Deri lionaire David Appel - an facing criminal charges?

Halaby could hardly believe his ears. Only recently, on two separate occasions, Netanyahu had assured him that he believed Channel 1 to be the only reliable, fair and decent medium in the country. Netanyahu confirmed this on camera in a live interview with the channel's Ehud Ya'ari and Dan Semama last week in which he assailed "the media" but excluded Channel 1. It is now feared in IBA that if the

Bar-On scandal fails to pan out. Netanyahu, who has made no secret of his plans to liquidate Channel 1, will use the affair as an excuse to sell off the channel to a private owner sympathetic to government interests. Deri and Lieberman, two of the

strongest men in Israeli politics, followed the prime minister's lead in playing the victim, by whining on and on in Richard Nixon style about "their blood being let" by media leeches, of course. On Channel 1's own Popolitika

sources.... A story like this cannot come from an open source. It can only come from someone who is not interested in coming out.

"In the United States there was Watergate - not that I'm compar-ing. Today, 25 years later, they still don't know who 'Deep Throat' was. The Washington Post has not revealed his or her name to this day. So did that stop the truth from coming out? No. Did that prevent Nixon from resigning? No."

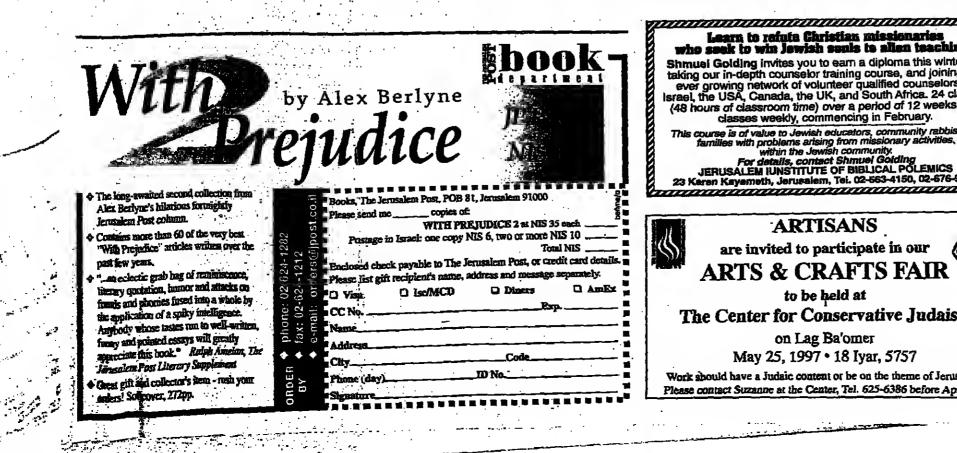
Stem said the case may not even reach the stage in which the police ask the court for an order to Channel 1 to expose its sources. The best detectives are onto it and they don't need our sources to reach the truth. All they need to do is question the people involved.

"Politicians here are going crazy because they don't know what we have and what we don't. That's what's eating them. They don't care about the rule of law or proper conduct. All they care about is what we know, what we have on them.

"The story became so big that some fear the government is hanging in the balance, everyone's denying everything and there's a big mess."

All we need, advises Stem, "is a little patience. In the end the whole truth will come out. This I can assure you

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FEATURES

Friday, January 31, 1997 The Jerusalem Post



Letting them have their say

If Israeli emigrants are given the right to vote, they could play a crucial role in determining future election results. Tom Tugend in Los Angeles, Marilyn Henry in New York, Douglas Davis in London, and Uriel Heilman in Jerusalem report

sraeli emigres have greeted the prospect that they will be allowed to vote in their homeland's future elections with enthusiasm, ambivalence and opposition. Under a bill passed in its preliminary reading by a sharply divided Knesset, holders of valid Israeli passports will for the first time be able to cast their ballots abroad.

The best current data indicate that some 600,000 Israelis live outside the Jewish state. Roughly 350,000 of these would be eligible to vote, enough to fill between eight and 10 of the 120 Knesset seats. Knowledgeable observers believe that the majority of the expatriates, possibly up to 65 per-cent, would vote for the Likud and parties of the right, and it is not by coincidence that the Knesset bill, dubbed the Emigrants' Law, is being championed by the Likud while most on the left are bitterly opposed.

Nazarian, a computer analyst from Jerusalem, now living in Fort Lee. Yossi Beilin, a candidate for the New Jersey. "It's not that you are Labor party leadership, said, "The deciding for someone else what cynicism of the ostensibly nationalist camp has reached new the political outcome of the election is going to be. You are decidheights with a proposal which will allow former Israelis who abaning for yourself - maybe not for

doned us to send our children to the next war."

"But if this means that we consid-

er world Jewry as part of Israel,

Shimon Erem, chairman of the

Los Angeles Council of Jewish

Organizations, was more

to take part in Israeli elections," be

it's a good thing."

said.

But, Nazarian said, there should lewish organizations in the US on the whole welcomed the probe a restriction on who should posal. "I'm not an Israeli; the elecbave the right to vote. "Maybe you tions are for Israelis to decide." could put a time limit on it - how said Leon Levy, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major long you have been away. Maybe someone who has been here for 30 American Jewish Organizations.

the shape of your country.'

the short run, but you are deciding

voting to begin with." "I have mixed feelings, but over-all 1 am against it," said Ari Alsner, a Jerusalemite living in Queens, New York. "I don't think it's really right if you don't live

assertive. "Just as Americans living in Israel vote in US elections. we should not be denied the right but in my mind I say no." He also raised the prospect that the legislation could potentially create a political power outside of Individual Israelis were more Israel. "Israelis who live in New divided in their opinions about the prospect of gaining the right to York could have their own party; vote. "We would like to state our they could get one or two manopinion and that is the only way we can do it," said Asher dates.

Israelis, reactions were also divid-**Continued on Page 18**

To Russia with doubts

Lebanon

a n.d

The departing Russian envoy is not entirely satisfied with the development of relations between his country and Israel, reports Steve Rodan

lexander Bovin arrived in Tel Aviv more than five years ago convinced that Moscow's relationship with Israel could be a friendly one. Today, be is preparing to leave his post as the first Russian ambassador to this country with some regret that the friendship isn't warmer.

In the end, the 66-year-old Bovin says, some things are hard to change. "During my mission [1991-96], Russian-Israel relations have moved from level zero up to a level one can consider normal," he says. "But not as one would like it to be. To my regret, one can still feel distrust accumulated for previous decades from both sides Amnon Sela, a Russian expert at

Hebrew University, agrees. "The great Russian aliya hasn't resulted try in particularly warm relations," he says. "I am not saying there isn't positive expression but it is very roundabout. There is a large Russian community here but there hasn't been any sign in Russian-Israel relations that both countries feel it is worth it."

Indeed, jast May, Bovin told Jewish Agency chairman Avraham Burg that Moscow is not pleased with the efforts to encourage immigration from Russia. He said the emigration is causing a brain drain and urged Israelis to understand "the psychological difficulty that Russian residents feel amid the activities for the emigration of Jews - good and talented people that are leaving our country and are coming to Israel."

organization, doing thiogs on time. They just weren't reliable." Diplomatic sources say Bovin bas been disappointed with the commercial ventures," an industry government of Prime Minister source says. "It's not that they're Binyamin Netanyahu. The hurt is not capable. The bottom line. Is personal. He honestly thought that that until you have a deal you the Likud government would accord him the same access that it don't have a deal." amiable parting and the Israelis does the ambassadors of the US formed a partnership with the and Egypt.

But the Russian ambassador was quickly disillusioned. Foreign Chicago-based Pritzker Group. But Israeli executives drew a les-Minister David Levy, soon after son. The Russians were not ready

US ambassador Martin Indyk and

then Egypt's envoy Mohammed

Bassiouny. Bovin waited impa-

tiently for an appointment. He

finally met Levy on September 3.

ernment," a diplomatic source

says. "And don't forget Bovin is

close to Russian Foreign Minister

The result is that Bovin does not

feel much of a change in Russian-

Israeli relations. Russian officials

complained that during the tenure

of Yitzhak Rabin and Shimon

Peres. Moscow was dismissed as a

factor in the Middle East. But bas

the Netanyahu government given Moscow the role it wants in the

steps and its own policy."

Yevgeny Primakov."

region?

LIVING SYMBOLS:

ORDER BY

"It was a bad start for a new gov-

exchanged ambassadors in 1991, both countries felt the sky was the limit. Russia had oil, Israel had food. Russia had the industrial tiative to base, Israel had the know-bow in stop the fighthigh-tech. Russia had access to the Third World markets, Israel had a ing in base in the US.

The result was that trade steadi-ly increased from \$44 million in 1992 to \$350 million in 1996, with Israel selling more than \$250 mil-lion to Russia. But Israelis quickly encountered problems in industrial cooperation. And Russia was deteriorating. There was political instability in Moscow and the belailegal system was collapsing. The most promising area for the

two countries was the aviation and defense industries. In 1992, Israel Aircraft Industries signed a con-tract with the Moscow-based Russian jet manufacturer Ya acov Lev, for the design and production of a business jet called Galaxy.

The Israeli role was the dominant one. It would design the jet and supply the avionics. The Russian role was to supply the fuselage, an important system bot oot something that would involve advanced technology.

It didn't work. Ya'acov Lev pumped out MiG jets in the 1970s'and 1980s but in the 1990s the company was floundering. "They couldn't perform what they promised," a defense

indos-

more intense, particularly with the Netanyahu government. They point to last October's visit of Primakov to Israel.

Israeli officials say they see the positive side of relations. They say Russian-Israel ties have become Both Russian and Israeli officials agreed the visit improved relations between

(Uzi Keren

5:03

the two countries. The following month Primakov acknowledged this in an interview with the Russian news agency Interfax. He compared the Netanyahu govern-ment, which he said, "doesn't close its eyes [to Moscow's role in the Middle East]" to that of the previous Labor government, which "knowingly ignored this." At the same time, the officials are concerned over Russia's votes

in the UN, which they say reflect the automatic support Moscow provided the Arabs during the

years might be less interested in

there. When there is an election, in my heart, I am eager to participate,

In Los Angeles, home to between 60,000 and 100,000 ed: Psychologist- Isaac Berman said, "I am of two minds, because I would vote here as an American

By TOM GROSS

ike Israel. Ireland has a large diaspora, a politically charged invironment, and unresolved political problems of vital national importance. And like Israel, it has until now decided not to allow those outside the country to influence its future.

"At present the situation in the two countries is almost identical, in the sense that the only Irish citizens who can vote if they are not in Ireland on election day are diplomats and a select band of senior members of the army and navy," says Irish ambas-sador to Israel Brendan Scannell. "If someone goes on vacation on the day of the election, they can't vote."

Political pressure to change this state of affairs is growing, says Scannell. "I know of at least one group in the US dedicated to lobbying for the right of emigrants to vote.

zens currendy live out of Ireland (mostly in Britain and the US), compared to a population of about 4 million in the country. If the emigrants could vote they would potentially account for 20 percent of seats in the Irish parliament, the Dáil.

How other countries treat their expats

About one million instruction cit

In addition, Ireland, like Israel, is very generous when it comes to granting citizenship - you only have to prove you have one Irish grandparent. This means that were citizens abroad given the vote, millions of people could potentially acquire citizenship, and tip the balance in some crucial future national election, for example one that plays a role in determining the future status of Northern Ireland.

Another country with a big diaspora, Italy, takes a similar approach: at present the five million Italians living outside Italy cannot vote, although there are "repeated ongoing attempts by parties of the right to results.

The United States, on the other hand, is extremely generous to those who have left its shores. In both federal and local elections, American citizens can vote wherever they are in the world. Whether they are on vacation, have lived abroad for 40 years, or have never even lived in the US, Americans cannot be disenfranchised. All they have to do is send an absentee ballot form to the Board of Elections in a state with which they can prove some ties. Depending on which state they choose, it may be as simple as showing they have a bank account, a mailing address, or a dri-

ving license in that state. At around 40 percent, voter turnout among the three million US expats at presidential elections is not far short of turnout in the US. although the proportionately relatively small number of Americans living abroad means they are unlikely to have much impact on election

Continued on Page 18

larly in the West.

source recalls. "Their problem is

"I don't think they're ready for

IAI and Ya'acov Lev had an

Bovin: To my regret, one can still feel distrust.

INSTEAD, ISRAEL has tried to work with Russia in other areas of the world. One project is to supply China with an upgraded Russian Byushin 76 early-warning jet. Beijing insisted on the Ilyushio because of its Soviet-based air force:

Again, there are problems. Despite what the Israelis insist are pledges that date back to 1995, Moscow has not approved the transfer of the jet. Meanwhile, a \$250 million deal remains suspended.

"This is at the top of our agenda in Russian-Israeli relations," a defense official says.

Privately, Israeli defense sources "For the time being, I don't feel like it has," says Bovin. "However, the status of Moscow say the reason might be political. They trace the opposition from Foreign Minister Yevgeny Primakov, who arrived in Israel depends, first of all, on its own last April during Operation Grapes of Wrath. Then-prime minister Shimon Peres offended Primakov The disappointment bas extended to industrial cooperation as well. When Israel and Russia

neir Rus counterparts in joint ventures to upgrade MiGs around the world ...

edly agreed to see him. "He's still angry aboot that," a

For his part, Bovin is cryptic. "I

was not involved in the negotia-

tions on this theme," be says.

The ambassador pleads igno-rance on Israel-Russian efforts at

defense cooperation. He recalls

the December 1995 memorandum

of defense cooperation that called

for exchanges of military delega-

tions and joint ventures in market-

ing weapons to other countries.

Since then, Israeli officials have

defense source says.

We spoke to them several times about this and they never got back to us," a defense source says.

"In the field of weapons cooperation, there isn't much we can buy from them," Hebrew University's Sela says. "We don't have anything to buy. Maybe they can use hi-tech from us."

"Israel is very developed in iodustry, even compared to Russia," be adds. "Russia does not produce products for a countrylike Israel. It produces a lot of raw material. There isn't a lot we can work on."

An analyst on the Russian arms industry, who did not want to be identified, agrees. He says that many in the Russian industries, which became the biggest arms exporter in 1996, feel they can go it alone. "If one were to be able to put together Chinese financiog, Russian air frames and Israeli technology systems, that would be one terrific plane," the analyst says. "The problem is making the collaboration work. It's definitely political problem. The military industry people come from a cer-tain background. We've always been the enemy. The shift is hard. It's hard to make a collaboration with the Israelis. It's psychologically hard."

For his part, Bovin is extremely vague on the level of Russian defense cooperation with Israel. "I suppose you mean the memorandum on mutual aid," he says. "The exchange of military delegations provided in it is developing in

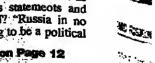
series of votes oo'issues that we term anti-Israel and which affects the peace process," an official says. "Russia is a co-sponsor of the Middle East process. It has relations with lots of nations in the anea."

Another concern is Russia's sale of weapons to what the US terms the rogue regimes of the Middle East. Iran is the best example. Moscow is selling Teheran nuclear technology, Russia also recently delivered the last of three Kiloclass submarines to Iran.

As Primakov put it in a December visit to Teheran, "Iran is an important country, and in light of the high level of trust between the two countries, Russia will act to integrate it into the international community as a full partner with equal rights."

Russian officials say Israel: is being disingenuous. On the one band Israel has protested Moscow's sales to the Middle East as unbecoming for a sponsor of the peace process. On the other hand, the government, including that of Netanyahu, keeps Russia at arm's length. During the visit of Russian deputy Foreign Minister Viktor Posuvaliuk to Jerusalem, officials requested that his country focus on the multilateral talks rather than on bilateral peace efforts."

SO, IS Russia returning to be a political ally of the Arab states as witnessed by its statemeots and votes in the UN? "Russia in no sense is returning to be a political



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N 84

14 Aug. 1

Continued on Page 12

accordance to the plans."

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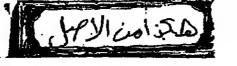
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The Jerusalem Post Friday, January 31, 1997

COLUMNS



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By HELLEL HALKIN

There is, yon may bave ooticed, something wildly paradoxical in the debate over extending voting rights to Israelis living abroad, which passed its first reading in the Knesset last week. Normally, you would expect the

post-Zionist left to be for such a law and the paleo-Zionist right to be against it, no?

After all, the logic is simple. In most post-nationalist countries, like Holland or France, such absentee balloting is taken for granted. Since Americans and Frenchmen see nothing wrong or reprehensible in some of their compatriots living abroad, they do not bar them from taking part in elections. Why penalize people for doing what they have every right to do?

If one thinks of such countries as models for Israel, there seems to reason not to follow them. And conversely, if one thinks of Israel as a special case - if it remains the Zionist duty of its citizens, and perhaps of Jews everywhere, to live in it - absentee voting is absurd, a rewarding and legitimation of gross irre-

A VIEW FROM NOV

Dealing with those who want out

sponsibility. In reality, of course, the right supported the law in order to increase the electoral proportion of Jews to Arabs and thereby decrease the demographic specter of annexing part or all of the Palestinian territories, whereas the left opposed it because it did not want the argument against annexation to be weakened,

From such a perspective, it hardly matters one way or another. Nobody knows exactly how many bolders of active Israeli passports are currently living outside of Israel. Bnt if one assumes that there are less than a million of them; that many are children who could not vote anyway; that tens of thousands are Arabs; and that the turn-out of yordim in any election would almost certainly be low, their numbers could oot seriously offset several million annexed Palestinians. The demographic specter will remain even if, every four years, Israeli ballot boxes are put on all the street corners of New York and Los-Angeles.

And yet the question of how to think and feel about yordim is far from academic. It touches every

it over the years, there is oo one doubts about being here ... bu living here who doesn't have ex- nevertheless ... there wer Israeli friends or family members residing more or less °permaneotly abroad. How we relate toward them differs with who they are and who we are; it tells us something about how we feel toward this country and about our being here

For a long time, in my first years in Israel, every act of yerida by someone I knew seemed to me a personal betrayal. Perhaps "personal" isn't quite the right word, because I didn't necessarily miss the people in question once they had taken off for America or wherever. But they had run off and left me holding the bag as surely as if they had jumped ship from a vessel we both were sailing on, or made off with the assets of a company we were partners in. From now on, I would have to do more days in the army because of them, since there would be fewer of us to spread it out on; pay more taxes; stand more alone within the gates.

The years were war years; there was a feeling of a country under siege; every desertion, so it felt, left one weaker. Psychologically, one of us. In a country at least too. I was new in Israel, still an 10% of whose population has left immigrant. Not that I had any

nevertheless ... there wer moments when one wondered J. or found ooeself fantasizing about the life one would be leafing if ... and at such times whoever absconded took a little bit of one's carefully composed certainty with them.

Today, when the feeling of siege bas lifted, and Israel is quite simply home, and there is no longer any alternate fantasy life that attacks from behind in hagging momeots because the years in which it might have been lived are gone forever, you would think all that would be a thing of the past.

BUT THE other night 1 was over at an old friend's house, having a drink. We talked politics for a while. Gingerly. We used to see eye-to-eye on them. We don't anymore, not since I accused him of moving to the left after Oslo and I moved to the right. (Actually, it seemed to me that I had remained in the center, right where I always had been, but suddenly he was no looger there beside me.) Since then it's been a painful subject. Before long he changed it.

"Yon know C.?" he asked. (He used her full name. of course, not

just her initial. "Sure," I said. We all live in the same town. "You know her son?"

"Yes. He just got out of the army, didn't he?

"He is in Miami right now. C. told me that her husband sent him a fax this week not to come back."

"Why, what happened?" I asked. "What did the boy do?" It had to be something pretty terrible for a father to act like that.

My friend poured himself another brandy. "He didn't do anything. His parents have decided to join him in Miami. They've put their house up for sale."

Damn them, I thought. Which was odd, because 1 don't know either C. or her husband very well and have oever had the slightest personal relationship with either of them.

"How come?" l asked. "No special reason. C. says

they've had enough. They've paid their dues. They want out."

I watched his knuckles tighten around his glass. "Damn them," he murmured.

l poured myself another drink too. "Well, cheers," I said. I badn't felt so close to him since Oslo.



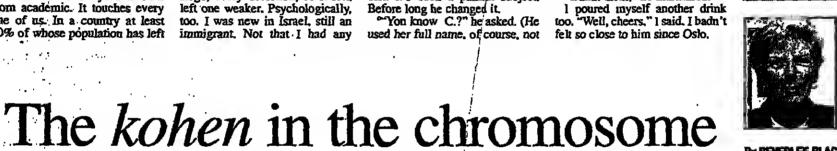
Dry Bones

SHULDIG! IF THE NEWS ON TELEVISION

GETS YOU SO

UPSET...

8



By BEVERLEE BLACK

Timer has come with a vengeance. After weeks V of "Indian summer" which resulted in prayers all around for rain, winter has now arrived with snow on the Hermon, floods in the Negev and dinghies rescuing stranded motorists in Ra'anana and Herzliva. For fortunate people like most of

geneticist at our readers, we take winter in our Lassmann, Jacob and Malvina Malka Lassmann, David and Rosy Lassman – Mirian R. Lassman-Rosin, Tel Aviv. S35 Ms. Dehna Goldstein, Chevy Chase, MD.

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why don't you stop shouting

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Rapaport, whose names Shapiro or Mr. Aaron. Neither are all Cobens, Kogans, Kagans, Kaplans, Katzes, Azoulays, or Mazchs - all

It transpired that Kaplan is a popthe Halacha, ular Turkish surname, meaning • the biblical/talmudic law that is the "tiger," like the Arabic name exclusive authority here in mat-Nimr.) ters pertaining to marriage and divorce, forbids a kohen to marry

Katz (9) is the acronym for the Hebrew kohen tzedek, meaning "anthentic kohen," as distin-guished from those who in certain Of course, not all people bearing those names are scions of periods of Jewish history were known or thought to have faked Aaronide ancestry or usurped the high-priesthood. Curiously, I had

patience for their unpronounceable and unspellable Slavic names. Some adopted those names, without regard for their kohanic implications, because they liked the sound of these or their aristocratic link, or as abbreviations of their complicated Slavic names. :

LET'S RETURN to our prospective bridegroom and the "suspito the reading of the Torah and to carry the Torah in the Simhat Torah festivities; standing before the congregation and procouncing the Priestly Benediction; leading the Birkat Hamazon after a meal; officiating at the Pidyon Haben (Redemption of the Firstborn Son) ceremony - may now be required to produce a certificate of Aaronic DNA,

Hammer, a

Cohen or Kagan, comes to the rabbinate with his bride-to-be to register for marriage. She is a divorcee, or a convert to Judaism, or the daughter of proselytes.

By MOSHE KOHN

If the marriage registrar is at all familiar with Jewish onomastics. he is sure to tell prospective groom Shapiro/Rapaport to prove he isn't a kohen, a scion of the priestly line founded by Aaron, Moses's brother. Of course, if the bride-to-be is a divorcec, the prospective groom will have to prove this regardless of his surname.

That is because people called. Shapiro are "under suspicion" of belonging to the distinguished and prolific Kahana-Shapiro clan, who are kohanim, as the first element of that name indicates: the Aramaic form of the Hebrew kohen.

People called Rapaport (in its various spellings) are similarly "suspect," for the name originates with the 16th-century Rabhi Avraham Menahem Hakohen Rapa, of Porto, Italy. His escutcheon, in Hebrew, speaks of "...Rapa of Porto," which were many Kaplans ... with given combined into the sumame we names like Ismet, Kemal, Tahsin.

claim a priestly connection, as do names suggesting Aaronide lin-

Know_

And

a divorcee.

Cohen, variously rendered also as Cohn, Cone, Coen, Kahan, Kahn and Kohn (to mention only a few of the variations), is simply a transliteration of the Hebrew title. It is the most common surname in Israel (see Onomastica Canadiana, Vol. 74, Nos. 1 & 2 [hereafter OC], two-part article by Charles . Kormos, Beth Hatefutsoth researcher; Edward D. Lawson, professor emeritus of psychology, State University of New York/Fredonia; and Joseph Ben Brit, Hibbat Tzion).

Kogan and Kagan are Russian for Cohen and Kahan, respectively; that language has oo "h" sound, replacing it with the hard "g." Kaganoff and Kaganovitch are Slavic for "son of a kohen. (The Irish name [George M.] Cohan is the English transliteration of the Gaelic Keoghan.)

Kaplan (rank 121 in OC) is Polish for priest. (Bnt when George and Betsy Kaplan of Jerusalem were in Istanbul and checked the telephone directory for possible relatives, they found

Shabbat 883).

ture.

divorce.

The plain meaning of the bibli-

cal text portrays God entering

into a covenant with the children

of Abraham only after we declared: We shall do and we

shall obey [na'aseh v'nishma]." Doesn't R. Abdimi'a interpreta-

tion contradict this description?

Ray Solovcitchik is obviously

disturbed by the ramifications of

this midrash. In a foomote on one

of the passages in his novella The

Lonely Man of Faith, this great

talmudic sage maintains that the

biblical description is dealing

with a general acquiescence to

live by Divine will; the talmudic

addition of coercion refers to the

details of the religio-legal struc-

In order to understand this

position, it is important to study a

passage in Maimonides's Code af

Maimonides rules that if a man

is ordered by a Jewish court to

grant his estranged wife a

Jewish Law pertaining to

never heard of a non-Ashkenazi Katz till I met a Yemenite in

Jerusalem bearing that name. Azoulay (11), borne by kohanim of Moroccan provenance, is presumably the acronym of the passage in Leviticus 21:7: "Isha zona vahalala lo yikahul They [kohaniml shall not take a harlot or a halala [woman profaned]" - the latter is a woman born of certain unions disqualifying ber from marrying an Aaronide. OC supports this view but suggests other possibilities: the name stems from the Middle Atlas Berber izil/good; it is linked to the names of the localities Tazula or Asilah/Ziliz or to a Hispano-Chaldean root meaning bluish; it refers to blue eves. Mazeh is the acronym of the Mizera Aharon Hebrew hakohenf"of the seed of Aaron the priest."

There are also such obviously Aaronide names as Aronstamm and Konstamm, the Germanic suffixes meaning "of the line of." There are many other Aaronide names, and variations of them. As noted, however, not every Cohen etc. is a kohen. Many of theto were arbitrarily given their names by immigration clerks who had no

cion" that he is a kohen about to take a forbidden woman.

Some sectors of the Jewish world and of the community of bio-genetic research are agog over the findings of a study conducted by an Israeli-English-Canadian-American team of researchers.

Examining 188 Ashkenazi, Sephardi and Yemenite men in those four countries, the researchers found that those claiming to be kohanim share a certain feature in their Y chromosome that is not present in non-Aarooides (Prof. Micbael Hammer, January's Nature magazine; Judy Siegel, The Jerusalem Past, January 3; Marit Slavin, Ha'aretz, January 6; Denise Grady, Los Angeles Jewish Journal, January 17-23).

So we may now be at a point where the rabbinate's marriage registrar will order the bridegroom to go to a laboratory to bave a smear taken of the saliva in his cheek, so his non-kohanic claim may be verified by a DNA check.

those now qualifying for the few remaining post-Temple kohanic privileges or duties ~ called first

London's University College and the University of Arizona, told Grady that at this point the test could suggest that the man is a kohen but not prove it, and it could rule out the possibility with a high degree of centainty.

Not coincidentally, the man who initiated the study is himself an Aaronide, bearing an un-kohanic Polish surname: Prof. Karl Skorecki (procounced Skoretzki), senior nephrologist at Haifa's Rambam Hospital and head of the department of molecular medicine at the Technion's medical school.

He told Judy Siegel the idea came to him in the synagogue, when he saw another kohen being called up to the Torah, and wondered at the fact that although presumably of common ancestry, he and the man don't look alike.

Meanwhile, halachically. today's kohanim are only presumed Aaronides. Tradition has it that when Prophet Elijah comes to proclaim the Messianic Era, be will bring a list of the authentic kohanim.

The converse is also possible:

stride by getting out a few more sweaters and our rubber boots and turning up the heating. But give a thought to the large

poverty-stricken family whose winter boots are paper thin or the elderly who have only one thin blanket and no money for heating oil. These are the people that your fund collects money for and who benefit from

your generous donations. I'm sorry to say the dwindling donations do not bode well for those who are looking to our funds for assistance. If contributions don't pick up for all three funds, there won't be enough money to supply heaters, blankets etc. for the elderly. toys, physical fitness equipment, clothing and shoes for the youngsters and scholarships to help worthy students without means to pay the university tuition. There's so much to be done and

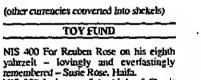
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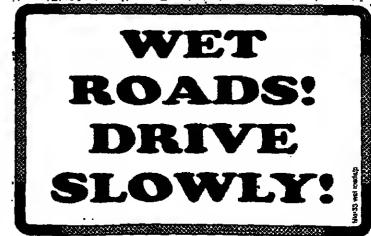
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ittle	\$168	S1.806
arah	(other currencies	converted into shekels)



SHABBAT SHALOM



By SHLOMO RISKEN

"Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy. Six days shall you labor, and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God."

(Ex. 20:8-10) That would happen if one of the religious par-

ties was in a position to ----lead a coalition government? Would "Rabbi Khomeini" set on moral squads to separate TFICATION amorous couples, open prisons for those who mix meat and milk, and mete out corporal punishment for Sabbath desecrators? in as restanting Secolar Israel oced not fear a religious state. In the words of my mentor, Ray J.B. Soloveitchik, religious activity and coercion are mutually exclusive. Nonetheless, a midrashic inter-**111**

pretation of a verse in this week's partion of Yitro seems to lead to the opposite conclusion: "And Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet with God, and

Convinced – not coerced

they stood at the foot of the divorce, but refuses to do so, "he mountain" (Ex. 19:17). R. may be forced [physically and/or Abdimi b. Hama b. Hasa comemotionally] until he says 'I want ments that the verse comes to to." But if a divorce must be given of the hosband's free will, teach us that God picked up the mountain and beld it over our how is it possible to allow him to heads like a barrel. "If you will he beaten until he agrees? accept the Torah - good; if not, Maimonides goes on to explain there shall be your burial" (B.T.

that since this man "wants to be part of Israel and to keep all the commandments and to keep away from transgressions, and it is only his evil inclination which is getting the better of him ... it is considered as if he divorced bis wife of his own free will."

Using terminology from the Zohar. Rav Kook ioterprets these words in terms of a "lower will" and a "higher will." An individual who is on a diet, for example, and is offered chocolate-cream pie, might well say: My lower will wants it, hut my higher will does not." Similarly the husband may try to keep the wife even against her will, but the court knows that the individual's higher will wants to do

what is right. Using this idea, one might fear that when it comes to keeping the Sabbath under a Torah-majority government, the ruling party night argue that the cinemas must all be closed on Friday evenings. When a large group complains, the response would be: "Ah, but that

is your lower will; your higher will really wants to go to synagogue!" But this hardly takes into account the democratic rights of a minority.

R. Meir Simha of Dvinsk, a great commentator at the end of the last ceotury, interprets Maimonides's reasoning in a different way. As Rabbi Eugene Korn points out, the very words of Maimonides limit the exercise of coercion to those who announce that they are observant. This reading creates a new category between the religious and the non-religious: those who identify themselves with tradition and seek help if they should fall. In the world at large, this is exactly how we live. Assume for a moment that I'm caught speeding. A natural teodency might beto try to get out of the ticket by coming op with all sorts of stories. But no one in his right mind would argue that he is opposed to the entire system of traffic laws, that it is everyone's democratic right to drive as quickly as possihle. It is assumed that whoever applies fot a driver'a license

0771 We coostantly witness how laws intervene if actions endanger others. This is the unspoken

agreement between all members of society. But when it comes to areas of ritual hetweeo man and God, any enforced action will only empty the deed of any sem-

hlance of Divioe service. Only for those who privately and publicly accept the entire system of Divine commandments and rabbinic interpretation, and who are desirous of a punifive structure to help keep them on the "straight and narrow," does any kind of external regulation begin to make sense.

This is the point Rav Soloveitchik makes wheo he interprets the talmudic commentary that the Jews were forced to accept Torah as relating to the details after the general structure had been freely accepted by them.

Heoce Maimonides ruled that only an individual who has publicly declared his desire to observe all the commandments can be rabbinically coerced into willingly presenting a bill of divorce to his estranged wife. Hence any modern government would be entitled to punish for traffic violations but not for accepts the traffic laws, for Sabbath desecration. everyone's good, including his

For Sabbath observance, one must be convinced, oot coerced.

Shabbat Shalom

FEATURES

Friday, January 31, 1997 The Jerusalem Post

GRAPEVINE The mayor of what????

By GREER FAY CASHMAN

12

reudian slip. Hadassah past president Bernice S. Tannenbaum, in welcoming former Jerusalem mayor Teddy Kollek to the inaugural ceremony of Hadassah's Women of Distinction awards, referred to him as "the former mayor of Hadassah."

HONOREES IN the Hadassah awards brought members of their families to the presentation ceremony, which explains the presence of the president of the state. who this time was relegated to the audience, while his wife. Reuma Weizman, the first of the recipients, sat on stage. Weizman, who was singled out for setting an example in volunteerism through her work with Micha, Yad Sarah and other organizations. grew up in a Hadassah ambience. Her lute mother, Rachel Schwartz. was recruited in the 1920s by Hadassah founder Henrietta Szold, After Weizman completed her response to the award, her husband bounded on stage to give her a big kiss, then turned to the large gathering and said "Soon, I will have spent 47 years with my wife and that's a story in itself, the book of which she may write."

FOR SOME people, life begins at 40, and for others it continues well past 80. Case in point is Abba Eban, who celebrates his 82nd birthday, this coming Sunday Eban is still in frequent demand on

Spulik

COMPELLING . ENGROSSING

FRIGHTENINGLY GENVINE

appearance circuits. The former foreign minister's principal assignment the PBS film on the peace process, with a planned pre-miere for November, already has the promised participation of King Hussein, Hosni Mubarak, Yasser Arafat and Shimon Peres. In a typical Ebanism, he has termed the Oslo accord as "one of the wonders of the world - conceived by Labor and born with the indispensable aid of Likud midwives." Eban is also a major player in the BBC six-part series on the Arab-Israel conflict which is currently under production, and will be the central figure in a biographical study of himself by the company that produced the Einstein TV movie. His book on Diplomacy after the Cold War is due for release later this year and will be a follow-up to his best-selling The New Diplomacy. Henry Kissinger. with whom Eban meets frequently, has told him "it's very intellieent to write about the future because there is nothing on the

LABOR CHAIRMAN Peres, who gave the closing address to the Hadassah mid-winter convention, must have squirmed at the inaccuracies read out in his lengthy CV. When it was finally his turn to speak. Peres apologized for having "such a tiring biography" which took "such a long time to describe." After sharing his view of the future of the country, Peres said that he

"A STARTLING GLIMPSE

INTO THE CORRIDORS OF

POWER ! 3



Mazal Gibli, the former housekeeper of David Ben-Gurion, celebrates the wedding of her grandson, author Raz Nadav, along with his bride, film animator Lena Kleiner. (Sivan Farag)

would entertain questions, but no delegates kept firing questions at one raised her hand to ask about either peace or education, which were his two key themes. It was oute a chance from the Saturday night session on pluralism when

AN ASTONN DING CONSUMPTION

OF ACTION, SUSPENSE AND

JOURANLISTIC MUNINITY .55

the speakers till almost midnight, and might have gone on indefinitely had they been permitted.

WHEN SHE arrived home on a

by DOSH

visit earlier this month, Ofra Haza expressed the wish to cut a new album here. But now she's doing better than that, she's starring in a new Israeli movie Absolute Justice, which is based on the subject of Yemenite infants who disappeared without trace in the early years of the state. The choice of Haza as the big international name in the film's list of credits is particularly apt, since she herself is of Yemenite origin. Shooting is due to start next month.

IN THE 20 years in which she served as housekeeper to Paula and David Ben-Gurion, Mazal Gibli got to know many of the country's movers and shakers and maintained contact with them long after she stopped working for Israel's first prime minister. Some of them, including Esther Rubin, Gibli's former employer of 20 years from whom the Ben-Gurions "stole" her services, were among the buge crowd invited to the Gan Oranim wedding of her grandson, author Raz Naday, to film animator Lena Kleiner. Conspicuous by his absence was Shimon Peres, who makes a point of responding favorably to nearly all of Gibli's invitations. A previous commit-ment abroad forced him to give this one a miss.

IN AN exclusive interview with Dan Rather on CBS, grieving father Bill Cosby, whose son Ennis was murdered in Los Angeles earlier this month, admit-ted to marital infidelity but denied a paternity claim by his former lover.

WHAT DO Bruce Willis, Liam Neeson, Matthew McConaughey, Sean Connery and Richard Gere have in common? All were approached to star in Universal's upcoming remake of The Day of the Jackal. Each declined for a variety of reasons, but in the final analysis, Willis, who was the initial cboice reconsidered, and decided that he could reshuffle his other commitments.

ALMOST AS zany off screen as on, Bette Midler, one of the stars of First Wives Club, tells the story of how she once backed into her boyfriend's mother's car because she thought it was his. When her panic-stricken boyfriend informed her that his mother had no insurance, Midler's typical rejoinder was "That's tough."



By MICHAL YUDELMAN

s the nation speculated who might be the 'deep throat' who tossed TV Channel 1 the juicy bone of the Roni-Bar-On-for-Hebron Shas-swap, an interesting sidelight on the mystery flickered briefly in a corner of

the presidential residence. After the judges inauguration ceremony at Beit Hanassi, three journalists struck up a chummy cbat with Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi. One of them, The Jerusalem

Post's Batsheva Tsur, asked the minister who, in his opinion, might possibly be the secret source of the government-shaking story.

Hanegbi answered with a wide grin: Well, only four people were at the meeting where the Bar-On appointment was discussed. So, you have four possibilities. The prime minister obviously would have no interest in leaking it, nor does his director-general Avigdor Lieberman. So unless you think it was me, it must bave been Attorney Dan Avi-Yitzhak."

Tsur: "I then asked Justice Ministry spokeswoman Etti Eshed whether I had heard correctly and she confirmed what Hanegbi had said, but she added it was merely background material which should be attributed only to a government source.

Later that evening, Tsur called Hanegbi himself to re-confirm. "At this point he said 'I was just kidding.

This poses the question of just how seriously a journalist should take the minister's jokes.

Tsur then spoke to Avi-Yitzhak. He said he did not want to comment at that moment but "the truth will come out."

HOUSEKEEPING

Knesset Speaker Dan Tichonhastily denied reports that be hired the Gitam/BBDO advertising company to improve the Knesset's image, after receiving a shower of angry reactions.

Many people called to remind ule and appointments' diary, his Tichon that Gitam's media whiz main duty, was taken beyond his

hardly goes there if he can help it. the situation will only get worse. "If the goods are bad, they will be impossible to market," stated Likud's MK Ruby Rivlin. Meretz's MK Yossi Sarid added: "As long as the bad apples are on top, it will be difficult to sell the whole box. If the rotten ones are removed, there will be no need for public relations to sell the parliamentary merchandise."

And bow can public sympathy for MKs be tapped as long as they cut themselves off from the real world of the citizens' problems and continue to fatten their own pay packets?

Tichon's urge for a PR fix, it has been suggested, arises from the Knesset's emergence from recent events smelling of something not quite roses.

One was the invasion of the House by Channel 2 cornedian Eli Yatzpan, who asked the MKs questions as part of bis Friday night comedy act. Another was that irksome decision by MKs to raise their own salaries.

Another contribution came from the exposure of the rather costly renovations in the chambers of the Speaker himself - something in the NIS 120,000 ball park, plus or minus diddly squat. But who's counting anymore!

DUST BITERS

Binyamin Netanyahu's office deserves its own book of records for short-lived appointments. No, not the six-bour attorney-general this time, but this week his bureau chief, Brig. Gen. (res.) David Agmon, announced his resigna-tion and bit the dust after three months in the job.

"I've bad it with them," he said succinctly, "they re impossible to work with." Agmon, the equivalent of the mighty Eitan Haber in the late prime minister Yitzhak Rabin's burcau, found himself cut off from the political center and decision-making by

the Netanyahu's aides Danny Naveh, Avigdor Lieberman and others. Even the prime minister's sched-Mosbe Teomim had served as grasp by the chief secretary, Ruhama Avraham. Among other appointments which haven't worked out - Bar-On of course, Ya'acov Ne'eman as justice minister, Jacob Frenkel as finance minister, attorney Avi Halevy as office legal adviser, and David Ivri as head of the still-born national security council. Two others in the bureau; Rami Simsolo, Netanyahn's adviser on Arah affairs, and Sbmuel Cohen, a political adviser, are departing. SOOT Former Tsomet director-general, Doron Shmueli, was offered Agmon's job. But his candidacy immediately swam under a cloud when it became known that be is among those suspected of illegally pulling confidential documents out of the military archives for possible use against political rivals.

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ACROSS

- I Just the right thing to take! (11) 9 Stirring articles are writ-
- ten about soapstone! (9) 10 Exciting start made by five
- in French street to produce theatrical work (5) 11 Finisbes the Spanish fuel
- 12 Cooking utensil found on American football field (8) 13 Commendation produceo
- quiet increase in salary (6) 15 In a burry to make some
- notes about a bird (8)
- 18 Terrible actors took 99 attempts at the word
- puzzle (8) 19 Listen in on small insect (6)
- 21 Puts in a thousand vegetables perhaps (8)

23 Disorganised engineer involved in poor work, but he does produce a barrel (6) 26 Aegean islands are first class-no one returns (5) 27 Harem slave found squalid mess, and opposite extremes (9) 28 Silvestrian arrangement is of little importance (11) DOWN

(5,2)

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

1 Bill and Edward got out of bed and behaved badly 2 Sounds like a bit of tranquillity (5) 3 Weighs down with work on

printing machinery (9) 4 Space to tie np (4) irritation (5) 5 Take away something that isn't concrete (8) are both wise men (4)

8 Complete picture, or just a general survey (8) 14 A protein which could be a deadly poison (8) 16 Muddled alto didn't start aria or perform in the style of an actor (9) 17 They gave a skilfui performance, but caused our visit to be rescheduled (8) 18 Dwelling permanently (7) 20 Strange shaped stones (7) 22 Pop back for the painting, separately (5) 24 Fabric which might cause 25 Clever fellow and a soldier

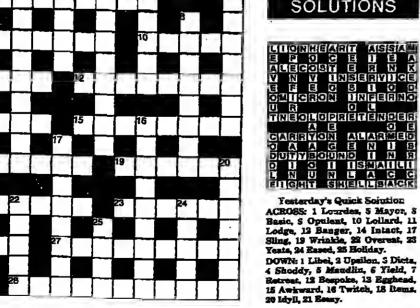
6 Doesn't begin to get geared

7 Mark has 100 of these (7)

to having sound detectors

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	QUICK CROSSWORD		
β 10 12 10 12 10 15 10 16 10 17 10 18 10 21 22 23 10 25 10 27 10	ACROSS 1 Pigtail (5) 4 Musical exercises (6) 9 In the middle of (7) 10 Teni (5) 11 Flat (4) 12 Heraldic animal (7) 13 Suitable (3) 14 Impartial (4) 16 Woman (4) 18 Pig's home (3) 20 Most abundant (7) 21 In this place (4) 24 Kenyan tribe (5) 25 Consider (7) 26 Flag (6)	DOWN 1 Celestial body (6) 2 On top of (5) 3 Pulls (4) 5 Perceptibly (8) 6 To do with skin (7) 7 Observing (6) 6 Fat (5) 13 Very cold (8) 15 Helps (7) 17 Highly glazed red pottery (6) 18 Gape (5) 19 Written character (6) 22 Choose (5)	
	27 Revolving part (5)	23 At a distance (4)	

5 ONE-DAY TRIPS with Shorashim & The **Ierusalem Post Travel Club**

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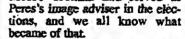
A DAY LIKE NO OTHER Thursday

- Israel is not associated with heavy industry, and yet... This tour will visit the Haifa Bay, including the Oil Refineries, the Klil Alumínium Works, the shipyards, March 6 workshops and navy base, plus a boat tour of the bay. We bet you've never seen this part of Israel. NIS 190 (including lunch) Tour guide: Dr. Yoash Zohar
- LAND OF MILK AND HONEY Cheese, boney, olive oil and wine we'll taste them all on our way. We'll start at the organic dairy of Klil, and Monday March 17 continue on to the olive oil press at the Druse village of Yanuah, then the prize winning Dalton winery. We'll also visit the bee hives of Shadmot Dyora and its cilk production unit. The Galilee is especially beantiful at this time of the year. Join us! NIS 215 (including lunch) Tour guide: Israel Shalem
- TRISES ARE BLOOMING IN GILBOA Tuesday Every year in March it happens. Inses cover Mt. Gilboa. They are the largest, most beautiful and March 25 colorful, and some are yellow. We'll visit Nahal Toot on the trail of lupins, the "Cyclamen Hill" of Gilad and Givat Hamoreh. Lunch at Kibbutz Tirat Zvi. NIS 185 (including Innch) Tour guide: Hagar Leshner
- ACRE THE CRUSADER CITY Thursday In July 1099, after they had captured Jerusalem, the April 3 Crusaders realized they needed a port with a major harbor. So they turned this small city into an important Crusade- stronghold. The markets filled with goods, cloth, jewels and precious stones, for the troops to take home as souvenirs. We'll visit the Hospitalers Quarter and view the new discoveries, the Genoz Quarter - little Italy in the Holy Land, the Templars Quarter, the Turkish Baths and more. NIS 175
 - Tour guide: Hagar Leshner
- IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE SANHEDRIN Thursday April 24 The Bar-Kochba Revolt failed. 600,00 Jews died. Jerusalem was desiroyed. Jews were sold as slaves, and Tora sindy came to an end. But a new center aros in the Galilee, and the towns of Zippori and Tiberias became famous. We'll visit them, as well as Belt Shearim, the burial place of Rabbi Yehuda Hanasi and his family. NIS 215 (including lunch) Tour guide: Danny Weiss

The tour price includes transportation from Jerusalem or Tel Aviv and return, entrance to all sites, background lectures and on-the-spot explanations. Lunch as indicated. 10% off when you book all five tours. Fick-up and dropoff alon, the route when the ible and the beforehand. .

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You got it all wrong, said Tichon, noting that he had indeed met Teomim, but only as part of a series of talks with media advisers to find out why the Knesset's image isn't improving.

Maybe someone should tip off the speaker that the spin doctors don't have much chance of sprucing up the Knesset's image while its members seem intent on going in the opposite direction.

"A thousand image consultants won't be able to improve the Knesset's image," said Labor's Dalia Izzik. She pointed out that the Knesset, emasculated by the personal elections for prime minister, bas lost almost all its power. As long as the prime minister shows contempt for the House and

RUSSIA **Continued from Page 10**

ally of the Arab states," said Bovin. "Our voting in the UN is not determined by 'returning to Arabs.' It is determined by the Russian Foreign Ministry in accordance with our understanding of the situation in the Middle

"It would be naive, to say the least, to demand from Moscow to see the world with the eyes of Israelis or Arabs. Neither the former nor the latter have their own monopoly on justice. That's why there is neither a need for offense nor for bysteria. But there is a need for constructive dialogue which would help to understand different point of view. As for Russia, it is open for such a dialogue."

And how does Bovin explain Russia's policy of selling nuclear equipment, missiles and sub-marines to Iran? Is this a way to gain influence in the region, or will Russia sell to anyone who pays cash? "Russia needs money. This motive is, at the present moment and in this given case, the chief one," claims Bovin. "Certainly, we are taking into account not only sums in cash but political factors too. But Russia has no interest in destabilizing the situation in the Near and the Middle East."

REGARDING DOMESTIC issues, Israeli police sources say that over the past three years suspected Russian mobsters have found a safe haven in Israel. "I have not received from Moscow

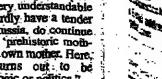
any direction about these 'Russian mobsters,'" says Bovin. "And principally. I can say nothing. This is a question of fact. Are there really such mobsters in Israel or not? All my attempts to find out this fact from different Israeli organizations have not succeeded."

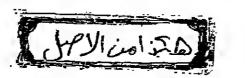
Still, Bovin is preparing to leave Israel amid a flurry of diplomatic activity. Netanyahu is planning to visit Russia in March and Russian diplomats say that some of the outstanding-bilateral issues - such as the release of the Ilyushin cargo plane to China - will be resolved. That will be followed by a visit to Moscow by IDF Chief of Staff Lt-Gen. Amnon Shahak.

Bovin accepts, with equanimity, his return to Moscow, where his replacement, an Arabic-speaking diplomat, awaits approval from President Boris Yeltsin, "Everything bas its beginning and everything has its end," he says. "I bave spent enough time in this country. Usually one loses a charm of novelty, a freshness of perception. Without this, the work turns into routine and everyone is bored.

age of pension. I should make way for those younger than myself." "And besides, I have passed the

Bovin's most striking impressions of Israel are that practically everywhere he goes "I can speak Russian, and secondly, the peo-ple, who for very understandable reasons can hardly have a tender affection for Russia, do continue. to regard their 'prehistoric motherland' as their own mother. Here, psychology turns out to be stronger than logic or politics."





BUSINESS&FINANCE

BITS & BYTES

January 31, 1997

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By Jennifer Friedlin

AreiNet sells Arcom software to Intelcam

Cameroon's telecommunications company Intelcam has purchased NIS 2.5m. worth of ArelNet's software. The software is designed for a family of message switching wide-area network systems called Arcom. ArelNet is a subsidiary of Yavne-based Arel Communications and Software (Nasdag: ARLCF). Arel Communications' software manages the receiving, storing and forwarding of messages.

Beta testing of 'push' technology begins

BackWeb Technologies of Ramat Gan and McAfee (Nasdaq: MCAF) of Santa Clara, California recently began beta testing SecureCast, the world's first software distribution service to utilize "push" technology to deliver software applications and

updates directly to desktop computers via web browsers. SecureCast is designed to deliver updates of antivirus technology, antomatically downloaded in the background so that users are able to protect their systems with the latest security software. BackWeb is a member of the BRM group.

TimeStep to Intergrate Check Point software

Check Point Technologies Ltd. (Nasdaq: CHKPF) recently announced that TimeStep Corporation of the US will integrate check Point's Firewall-1 network security software into TimeStep's Permit family of private networking products, and will also resell the entire FireWall-1 product line.

TimeStep Corporation, an affiliate of Newbridge Networks Corporation, produces secure virtual private networking solutions that protect an organization's confidential and proprietary data: Check Point of Tel Aviv bolds 40% of the worldwide firewall market.

Elonex to incorporate MMX technology

Elonex said that it will incorporate Intel's MMX technology into its line of Pentium computers. MMX, which was developed in Israel, allows computers to operate 10% - 20% more quickly than current systems.

Gilat announces deal with Brazilian lottery

Gilat Satellite Networks Ltd. (Nasdaq: GILTF) of Petah Tikva announced yesterday that Racimec Informatica Brasilia, SA, ordered 1,600 GSAT sites and hub equipment for the national lottery of Brazil. The network will become the second largest lottery-based network in the world after the UK's. Gilat's systems provide satellite-based communications .

between a central location and geographically dispersed sites.

Nice Systems wins outstanding exporter award

Nice Systems of Tel Aviv (TASE: NICE1) was recently awarded the Israel-British Chamber of Commerce 1996 award for the outstanding exporter to Britain. Nice exported an estimated \$4.5m; to the UK market during 1996.

Nice Systems markets a range of computer telephony integration products aimed at the UK's financial market and growing call-center sector. 1.1.1.1.1.1.1

Sapiens announces three new deals in Japan

"Sapiens International Corporation (Nasdag Sensity, a provider of client/server solutions recently announced the license of Sapiens ObjectPool to three new customers in Japan.

Discount to be ordered to sell off Mercantile

By GALIT LIPKIS BECK

The government will iostruct Bank Discount (IDB) to sell off Mercantile? Discount Bank during this year, Meir Yacobson, general manager of MI Holdings, the state-owned company in charge of the bank sales, said yesterday.

Mercantile, a wholly owned subsidiary of IDB, is considered a medium-sized bank specializing in the Arab sector. The bank has total assets of NIS 8.25 billion and had net profits of NIS 12.6m. duriog the first half of 1996.

Mercantile will be sold after IDB's public offering next month. Yacobson said details of the sale are included in IDB's prospectus, which will be distributed to jostitutional investors next week.

The government initially decided that

Histadrut to

Mercantile must be separated from IDB in 1993, in the framework of the Banking Law and the privatization program. Since then, the gov-emment has tried to push forward the sale, but legal obstacles and IDB's desire to maintain its holdings have postponed the sale. In recent years, IDB has reaped dividends from Mercantile.

Brinish businessman Bernard Schreier has already notified the Treasury that he plans to bid for control of ownership of Mercannile. At this stage it is unclear whether Schreier will purchase the shares on his own or with another vestor.

Schreier initially expressed interest in pur-chasing Mercandle in 1992, when Barclays of London decided to sell its 50% holding in the subsidiary. At the time the bank was known as Barclays-Discount Bank.

After months of negotiations with Schreier,

Barclays reached an agreement to sell its holdings for 35 million pounds sterling. But a few days after the agreement was reached, IDB notified Barclays that it was exercising its first right of refusal to acquire the shares. The transaction went through despite

Schreier's objections and the fact that IDB did not have the Bank of Israel's approval to con-trol another 50% of Mercantile's shares. In response, the Bank of Israel filed a complaint in court, which eventually ordered IDB to sell off Mercantile entirely. Shortly after, Schreier filed suit in Tel Aviv

District Court, demanding IDB sell him the shares at the same terms of his original agreement with Barclays, and also pay him compensation.

"The sale of Mercantile is at a standstill until the court case is resolved," said a spokesperson for Bank Discount.

Philly may be shut

division believes it will have to close more than one of its missions While Burma seems a likely vic-

Trade Ministry," said one source.

bills for millions of dollars.

The Foreign Ministry's Asian

is not slated for closure. With the embassies in the Philippines, India, Thailand, Japan and China seemingly safe, attention is turning to the embassy in Viemam and the coosulates to Bombay and Shanghai. "These could be downgraded to economic offices, under the auspices of the Industry and

When making the decision, the senior civil servants will be told that the cost of an embassy or consulate official is some \$150,000 a year. Small representative offices tend to have two officials, with a back-up staff. It is estimated that a medium-sized office's running .costs annually.total \$1.25m, with the larger embassies running up

source said last night that National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon is opposed to reducing the franchise period. However, a source close to Sharon said his opposition is not to the shortening of the franchise, but to the way the change is being brought about. The Knesset agreed to a 10-year franchise less than 12 months ago, and already the ministerial committee wants to change it," said the

the

source. If the government is going to make changes to the legal standing of the IEC, it "should implement them all at once, not on a piecemeal basis," the source said. Such frequent changes send out the wrong message to potential foreign investors."

13

Workers.

gov't

clash over

IEC franchise

By DAVID HARRIS

Israel Electric Corporation work-

ers are gearing up to fight a govern-

ment decision to reduce the compa-

ny's franchise from 10 years to six.

staff, which held an emergency

meeting yesterday, said workers

would not allow the move agreed on

yesterday to pass without comment.

been approved by the secretariat,

but it will launch a campaign sim-

ilar to that conducted against the

previous government to ensure the

The ministerial legislative com-

mittee decided to reduce the

length of the franchise in line with

government policy to promote

competition to monopolies such as

Binyamin Netanyahu and Finance

Minister Dan Meridor both sup-port the move, but a senior IEC

IEC. Prime Minister

franchise continues for a decade.

No specific measures have yet

The national secretarias of IEC

A 10-year extension of the corporation franchise was approved last March, after Labor MKs overwhelmingly supported the IEC union's demands and opposition MKs largely absented themselves from the vote.

An alternative proposal by former Finance Committee chairman Gedaly2 Gal (Labor), which would have extended the franchise for only six years, is said to have led to Gal's failed re-election campaign in Labor's primaries.

. "For the time being we are not - i reacting to the decision," said IEC spokeswoman Yael Ne'eman.

2 3771

work week By GALIT LIPKIS BECK The Histadrut's bank workers

division is scheduled to meet Sunday to decide on a course of action that will allow the entire banking sector to shift from a six- to a five-day work week, division head Zion Shema said this week.

The banks' workers bave been pushing for a shorter work week for more than two years. On Mooday, the Antitrust Court rejected the plan by the Association of Banks to close Fridays, on grounds that it would severely hinder competition. Shema said the workers' com-

mittees will probably decide to call a general strike.

consider proposals to close embassies and consulates around the world, including those in San Francisco and Philadelphia, a min-

istry source said yesterday. Faced with the demand to cut NIS 45 million from its 1997 budget the ministry has already begun implementing a series of cutbacks át its representative offices throughout the world.

Those involved in information, public relations and cultural work will no longer be paid overtime. This has provoked deep resentment among staff, particularly in the large embassies in Washington, London and Paris, according to the source. They want to know why

they're the only ones to be affected," said the source. They believe. that if such cuts have to be made, "We are currently examining the they should also be targeted at

SAN FRANCISCO (Reuter) - A

chemical giant Bayer AG was fined \$50 millioo yesterday after

US District Judge Fern Smith handed down the sentence in San

ric acid prices.

Washington.

Walk into Wall Street

CLARK ADDISON

U.S. STOCK AND COMMODITY BROKERS

DISCOUNT COMMISSIONS

chart strategy on banks'

By DAVID HARRIS

Strike action, however, is not The Foreign Ministry will soon

anticipated. "It's just somethiog Foreign Ministry workers don't do unilaterally," added the source. Attention is now turning to the more crucial decision of which

embassies and consulates will be closed. Senior ministry officials have a shortlist of 25 representative offices throughout the world. The list includes the consulates in San Francisco and Philadelphia and the embassy in the Dominican Republic.

Consulates in S.F.,

ancillary staff, such as drivers."

A loud outcry is expected from the Jewish communities in California and Pennsylvania if the closures of the coosulates there are approved. The Dominican Republic Embassy acts as the office for Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, and the Federation of St. Christopher, St. Kitts and Nevis, in addition to the Dominican Republic itself.

tim, a source in the division said it

The aggregate value of the licenses is approximately \$1.5m. The three customers, American Family Corporation Japan, Unicharm and Japan Agricultural Coop, will all use the technology for the development of business applications. Sapiens has research and development and marketing offices in Rehovot.

Rad Data releases management tool for WANs

Rad Data Communications recently announced the release of Rad Data Communications recently announced the referese of its Radview-HPOV/WAN, a software enhancement for integrat-ed SNMP management of wide-area networks based on a host of Rads' product families. The management software also fea-tures at-a-glance summaries of available and allocated E1/T1 tures at-a-glance summaries of available and allocated E1/T1 resources. Rad Data Communications of Tel Aviv designs a range of product solutions for LAN and WAN applications.

ruling so as to decide what to do at the start of next week," Shema said.

The banks' managements, which agree io principle to the shift to a five-day week, are examining the possibility of operating bank branches six days a week while requiring workers to work five days.

The banks say this will cost them more money, however, and these costs will be passed on to customers in the form of increased commissions and fees. Meanwhile, Bank Discount workers continued the strike they began on Wednesday to protest the

firing of a branch manager sus-pected of taking part in gambling activities. A Bank Discount spokesperson defended the dismissal, saying,

The worker betrayed management's trust and did oot act appropriately for someone in his position."

ComStock

Internet

Service.

Bayer fined \$50m. for price fixing By ADRIAN CROFT

Haarmann & Reimer's German counterpart, to a \$150,000 fine after he pleaded guilty to taking

part in the conspiracy. The Haarmann & Reimer fine US subsidiary of the German was the second largest criminal pleading guilty to taking part in an international conspiracy to fix citantitrust fine after the \$100m. fine against Archer Daniels Midland Co., the agricultural products giant, which pleaded guilty to taking part in conspiracies involving two additives last October.

Francisco after accepting a plea agreement between New Jersey-"This \$50 million criminal fine is a clear message to corporations based Haarmann & Reimer Corp and the US Justice Department around the world," Attorneythat was announced earlier in General Janet Reno said. "We will not tolerate international conspira-She also sentenced Hans cies that defraud American con-Hartmann, a senior executive at sumers."

Citric acid is a flavor additive and preservative found in soft drinks, processed food, detergents and pharmaceutical products. It is a \$1.2 billion a year industry worldwide.

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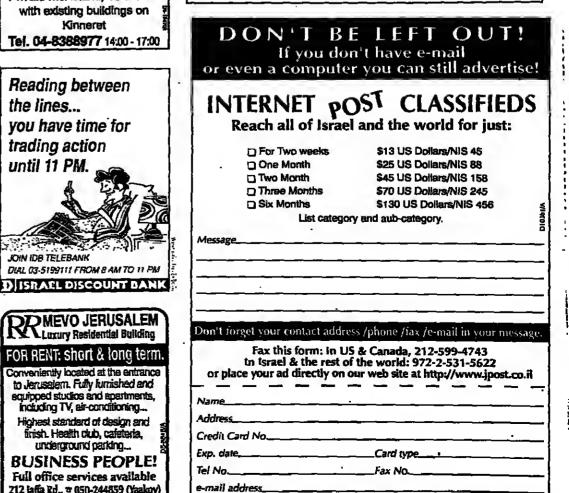
ISBAEL MONEY MARKETS

5.40 2.44 eta (100) "These rates vary according to bank. "Bank of Israel

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SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

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Programs begin at 6:00 p.m. be given to participants who register in advance.

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The Dynamic of Change in the World of **Corporate Media**

with Jeff Barak, editor of The Jerusalem Post

Dr. Yoram Perry, former editor of Davar

Israel is on the cutting edge of the Information revolution. Join other English-speaking professionals for coffee and cake as we learn how these two men navigate change in major news media.

When: Monday, February 3, Registration 5:30 to 6:00 p.m.

Where: Beit WIZO, 38 David Hamelech St., Tel Aviv Cost: AACI members NIS 30, non-members NIS 50

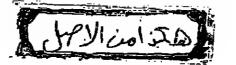
Advance registration (with payment) by January 27. NIS 5 surcharge for at-the-door payment, Space limited. Priority will

For information and registration, call the AACI at 03-629-9799.



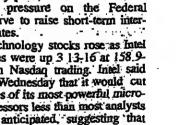
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Bally	+0		Pacificorp 21 +0 Pac Enterprises 30.25 +0.375	Weis Markats31.625 +0 Weis Fargo303.5 +6.5	Gold: 3001345.65 5.6 Silver: 30744.96 +0.02	OXIDA IDIA ICPORTA I MAL MO CAL. OMICIALI CAL TO SALL AL MALMENT
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HA Belo Corp	+1 +0.125	Heda Mining\$75 -0.5 Heinz (FM)40.25 +0.125	Philip Monts	Yellow Frencht 18.375 -0.125	Gold AM Itz349.3 -0.85 Gold PM Itz349.25 -1.85	yesterday, led hy hig-company 341,000. That level had originally
Bathlehem Stoel	+0.125	Hein Technol	Philip Monts120 +3.625 Philips Elec39.75 +0 Philips Pot445 +0.5		Silver In 487.8 -4 Month in parentheses signals contract exp. date	shares, as a jump in unemploy- been reported as 355,000.
Biomet15 625	+0.3125	Hercades 44 +0	Phillips Pot	Zenith Electron11.125 -0.125 Zero Co21.75 +0.125	(Spot mained listings are transportately 23:30 Israel listing. All others are closing quotes.)	ment claims pushed interest rates The jump in unemployment
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Boise Cascade34.875 Bowater Inc40.625	-0.25 -0.375	Hilton Hotels 26.625 -0.375	Policy Mgt Sys	LONDON	SOURCE: CCMMSTOCK TRADING LTD. (DATE 30-JAN-97)	on industry news. may not be growing at an infla-
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Brooklyn Union29.5	+0	Hormel (Geo)	Quaker Oats	Bass	FAU	after stumbling a bit in late morn- est rates.
Brown Group	-0.375 -0.125 -0.25	Houston inds 22.75 +0.375	Qualcom55.75 +1.625 Qualex Cop26.25 +0.5	Boots		ing and then recovering. Technology stocks rose as Intel
Browning Ferris 30.25 Brunswick 24.875	+0.525	Humana	RJR Nabisco35_ +1.375	British Gas216.5 -1 General Bachic390 -1.5		Larry Rice, chief investment shares were up 3 13-16 at 158.9-
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CBS Inc21.625 CMS Energy Corp31.5	+0.125	linovs Corp81.625 +0 Linois Tool81.625 +1.875	Railston Putina 77.875 +1.25 Rank Organ ADR -14.25 +0.25 Ranycham Corp	Gazo974 +13.5 Gunesa437.5 +1.55625	MED	Ross, said cash flows into stock late Wednesday that it would cut
CBS Inc21.625 CMS Energy Corp33.5 CPC Intern75.875	+0.125	(NCO	Revolution 45 425 Revolution 49 +3.5 Revolution 49 +3.5 Revolution 40 -26.625 +0	HSBC (75p shs]1454 +13		mutual funds were very strong this prices of its most powerful micro-
CSX Corporation	+1.75	inland Steel 19.375 -0.125	Reynolds Reyn A26.625 +0 Reynolds Metals	ICI752 -8.5		month, especially into index processors less than most analysts funds, which simply replicate the had anticipated, suggesting that
Campbell Soup	+0.125	Intergraph160, 125 +5.375	Rea Ald Com	Llovds Bank 475 +1.5	INVESTMENTS	funds, which simply replicate the stocks in any given index such as demand for computers and com-
Capital Cis ABC85.75 Caroling Per Ll37.75	-1	Intergraph10 -0.25 Interfate4 +0.25 Int Fmly EntB18 +0.125	Roadway Services 21.875 +0.875 Rockwell Inti 65.25 +1.5 Rohm & Haas 81,125 -0.125	Marks & Spencer492 +11 Nativest Bank763.5 +3 Prudental537 -5.5	IN VESTIVIENTS	the S and P 500. That has pushed puter technology is strong.
Carpenter Tech36.625	-0.625 +1.125	Inti Flav & Fr44 -1				hig-name stocks up faster than Technology stocks Micron
Caterpiller77,125 Centerior Energy10.875	+8.25	Ind Paper41 -0.25	Rouse +0	Reuters667.5 +0.5	Tel Aviv shares data	their smaller brethren, Rice said, Technology and Texas
Center Corp39.125 Central & SW25.375	+0.25 +0.125 +0.125	Interpublic49 +0.125 ITT Corp56.875 -0.75 ITT Corp56.875 -0.75	Royal Dutch24.875 +0.125 Royal Dutch175.5 +2.75	Shell Transport 1053.5 +7 Unieve: 1395.5 +4	supplied by Pacific	The Dow's charge higher was Instruments were boosted on the
Candian37 Champion Inti42.5	+0,125 +0,125	ПТ Согр56,875 -0.75 ПТ Согр56,875 -0.75	Royal Dutch		Mediterranean Investments,	led by household names Procter. Big Board when Korean rival
Ching Shoppes475	+0.0625	James River Ba33.125 +1.125 Jallerson Pit58.875 +2.125	Aussel Corp 32.25 +0.125	PARIS	Tel. 09-958-5873. All other	and Gamble, up 3 17/64 at 114 Samsung Electronics Co. said it
Chase Manhatian	+0.0625 +2.125 +0.25	Jaliarson Pik	Aussell Corp 32.25 +0.125 Ryder System 27.875 +0.625 Rymer Co 0.25 -0.03125	Accor	data supplied by	1/2, and Philip Morris, up 2 3/4 at will cut production of its 16
Chevron Corp	+0.375	K Mert		Accor726 +21 Air Liquide891 +23 Alcated Alsithem523 +70.3	Commstock Trading Ltd.,	119 1/8. megabit DRAM, or dynamic ran-
Chrysler35.5 Chubb Corp53.875	-0.125 -0.75	Kasser Alum12.75 +0	SPS Technology64.5 +0.5 Saleco Corp38.25 +0.25 Salety-Kiteen16.25 +0.155	BSN	Tel. 02-624-4963. Due to	Interest-sensitive stocks rose as dom access memory, chips.
Cisco67.5	+1.5 +2.625	Kellogg	St Paul's Cos01 -0.25	Caregour 3070 +12 Chargeurs	technical failures data may	bond prices climbed, poshing Advancing issues outnumbered
Olicasters	+2.625	KLA instruments	Salomon Inc54.625 +1.25 San Diego Gas 22.125 +0	Club Med358.9 -0.8	be inaccurate. The	interest rates lower. Citicorp decliners by a 5-to-3 margin on
Clevid Cuits44 Clorox11725	+0 +1	KeyCorp52 +0.375 Kimberly-Clark98,125 +1.75	Sera Lee Corp	Cred Lyon (Ci)170 +0 El Acutaine529 +2	Jerusalem Post will not be	shares were up 1 3/4 at 113 3/8, the New York Stock Exchange,
Coastal Corp48.75	-0.125	King Word Prod 39.305 -0.5	Schering Plaugh74 +3.5 Schlumberger111 +3.625	Euro Disney10.35 -0.15		and Chase was up 1 7/8 at 91 1/2. with 1,554 op, 934 down and 844
Coca Cola Ent56.5	+0.75	Knight Ridder38.5 +0.625 Knoger47.875 +0.625	Schamburger 111 +2.625 Schamburger 111.11 +2.625 Schamburger	LVMH1450 -12 Latarge Coppee332.2 +1.3	held responsible for the	The 30-year Treasury bond was unchanged. np 7-32 point, pushing its yield. NYSE volume totaled 520.4 mil-
Colgans Palmolv	+1.125 +0.625	LSI Logic	Scripps	Latarge Coppee	consequences of any	
Common 85 TS	41	Legget & Platt32 +0.375	Sears Roebuck	Mouliner	transaction made on the	which moves opposite the price, libra shares as of 4 p.m., vs. 498.39 down to 6.87 percent, after the million in the previous session.
Computer Sci	-0.25 +0.5 +0.875	Lily (El)	Service Com 28.375 +1.125	Pernod Ricard,	basis of these data.	Labor Department said first-time The Standard and Poor's 500-
Conagra51.625 Cons Edison31.375	+0.25	Limited inc	Shared Madical	Peugent	Readers who wish to report	state jobless claims rose by 10.000 - stock list rose 11.67 to 784.17.
Cons Freighterys25.375 Cons Nat Gas56.375 Cons Ref107.375	+0 +0.75	Lincoln Nat53.25 +0.625 Lition44 +0.675	Shell Trans	Total 8479.4 +7.9	missing or misquoted data	to 351,000 in the week ended and the NYSE's composite index
Cons Rel 107.375 Cooper Inds 42.875	+0 +0.75 +0.75 +0.5 +0.5 +0.25 +0.25 +1.5	Lz Clabone	Shoney's Inc7.375 +0 Signe Aldrich31 75 +0.625	FRANKFURT	should do so on postcards	January 25. rose 5.11 to 411.20
Coors (Adolphi18.25 Conting Inc35.875	40.375	Lz Claborne	Silicon Graphics		only, addressed to	Analysts polled by Dow Jones The Nasdaq composite index
Conting Inc35.875 Crane32.5	-1.5	Long Island Lt	Smith Infl 3375 +0.375	Alianz AG	Jerusalem Post Business	New Services this week generally advanced 12.34 to 1.367.51, and
Crompton Knowles	-0.125	Longs Drug Strs24.75 +0.125 Long Corp1T.5 +0.25	Sectime Bohm A	Bayer61.34 -0.96 Commercitank85 +0	Desk, P.O.B. 81, jerusalem	thought the number of applica- the American Stock Exchange
Cummins Engine 53.5	-1.5 -0.125	Loral Corp17.5 +0.25 Loutstana Land55.375 +1 Loutstana Pacif20 875 +0.25	Sonacco Prods	Deutsche Bank 114.5 40.65 Deutsche Bank 82.65 -0.1	91000	tions would fall 6,000 from the composite rose 0.99 to 588.66.
Curtiss-Wright55.525 Cypress Senicon12.75 Cypress Mineral22.875	-0.125 +0.25 -0.125 -0.25	Lowe's Coline	Sanacco Prods	Dresdner Bk 52.18 +0.58		
Cypress Mineral22.875 Cyrinc Indust39.875	-0.25	Lucent Tach	Southern Co	Bayer	DATA COMMUNICATIONS VIA	
DOE	+0	Madge 15.375 +0.25 MCi Commun34.875 +0.25	Sinh N. Eng Tel36,625 = 1,375 Southw Animes22,25 = -0,5 Southwestin Ball54 = +0,5	Mataloeselischeit	ABA CONFUTER SYSTEMS LIMITED	Cargarararararararararararararara
DOE28.625 Dana Corp32.875 Data General18.625	+0 +0.5	Madge	Southwestin Ball54 +0.5 Spring ings43.25 •1	Porsche1370 -35 Siemens78.82 +0.72		Kanana and and and and and and and and an
Dayton Hudson3T De Beers30.75 Deers3125	-0.375 -0.25	Manor Care	Spring Ings	Vokswagen768.5 2.5	Foreign financial data courtesy of	
Deerg43.125 Dute Pwr & L19.375	+0.625	McGround	Stanley Windex 37 625 +1 625	POLIDEE COMMETORS TOATING ITS	CommStock Trading Ltd.	DRIVE CAREFULLY
Data Pur & I. 15.375 Data Pur & I. 15.375 Del Computers .65 Della AL unis 78.625 Della AL unis 30.5 Della AL unis 31.225 Della AL unis 33.5	+0.375		Stone Conterner13.825 +0.125 Storage Technol49.125 +1.375 Stratus Comp31.75 +0.5	SOURCE: COMMISTOCIA TRADING LTD. (DATE 30-JAN-97)	Futures, Options,	
Delta Air Lnes	-0.125	Mesco Corp	Stratus Comp	t.	Stocks, Bonds	
Detro: Edeon31.625 Del Corp Det13.975 Diebold inc58.15	-0.5_	Matter Inc	Sundstand		and Mutual Funds	K CAKEEI IILY
Diebold inc58.15 Digital Equip38 Diffard Dep Si29.375	-0.375	McDanalds	Sun Microsystats		34 Вел Yehuda St., Jerusalem	
Difard Dep St29.375 Disney (Walt)72.375 Dominion Res40	40 405 40375 40375 4025 4025 4025 4025 4025 4025 4025 402	Marros	Suntrust 50 +0.75 Supervalu 50 5 +0.25 Symanter 16,125 +0		Te: 02-624-4983, 03-575-0325/27	
Dominion Res	.0 %	McKesson Corp	Sysco Cop33 -0.5		Fax. 02-623-9616	N N



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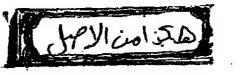
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Sector 1.



Friday, January 31, 1997 The Jerusalem Post

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Jerusalem Area BAKA, COTTAGE, 4, gerden, large basement, southern exposure, \$400,000. ALEX LOSKY REAL ESTATE 19 King David St. Tel. 02-623-5595.

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4 (1small). renoveted, quiet, south lacing. CASPI STREET: MAGNIFICENT private house, incredible view, largs garden. T.A.C. Tel. 02-563-1764,

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kol, Juxurious college, 5 room, spa-cious, beautilul garden, immediate, EHUD, Tet. 02-561-1222. HABITAT REAL ESTATE - Yele Nol, 3

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11 a.m. Service in English every Sunday a

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10 a.m.

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REDEEMER CHURCH , Lutheran, RELIGIOUS SERVICES Munistan Rd. Old City, Jerusalem, Sunday services: English \$:00 a.m. German 10:30 a.m. Tel. 6276111,6281049. TORA PORTION YITTO HAIFA-CHRISTIAN JERUSALEM BEIT ELIAHU (EVANGELICAL Messianic Congregation) Haila, 43 Meir Street, Tel, 04-8523581, HEBREW UNION COLLEGE, 13 King David St. Shabbal morning service, 9:30 JEB.-CHRISTIAN MORESHET YISRAEL -- Conservative 4 Agron. Dr. Avraham Feder, Rabbl. Serv-ices: Minha 4:55 p.m. Shaharit 9:30 a.m., Minha 4:10 p.m., Daily Minyan 7:00 a.m. JERUSALEM BAPTIST CHURCH The Baol(sl House Center. #4 Narkis Street, Sunday, 11 a.m. Tel. 02-6255942.

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4 nm. central, lift balcony.

6 m. cottage, new, central. 6 m. cottage, new, + basement.

S m. 4th fr. Keren Havesod

3.5 m., 3rd fir, Borochov

4 mL, 2nd ftr., Bar-Han

4 mi, 2nd Sk., central

5 m., alc, 确, central

4 m. 4th &. Et.

7 m. cottage,

09-958-9611.

771-6867 (NS).

837-0620.

Friday, January 31, 1997 The Jerusalem Post

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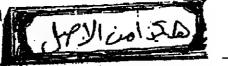
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NEWS

3 DEAD Continued from Page 1

by some other method is not Instead, the troops stumbled into a bomb trap laid by Hizbullah, which has claimed ably camouflaged in a fiberglass mold made to look like e rock. In the middle of the oight, in the responsibility for the ettack. OC Northern Command Maj.shrub and tree-covered rocky terrain, it would have been virtually Gen. Amiram Levine said it eppeared that the large explosive impossible to spot. device, loaded with metal ball brought to four the number of solbearings, had beeo planted recentdiers killed in south Lebanon so

far this year. Twenty-seveo sol-The unit commander and his diers were killed there last year. communications officer and More than half of the fatalities another soldier were in the lead when one of them detonated the device, which was apparently

last year were the result of roadside bombs. tions This latest bomb blast further

linked to a trip wire. The possibil-

ity that it was operated by a mine

linked to the explosive device or

The explosive device was prob-

Levine noted that the attack

underlined the difficulties faced

by regular army troops trying to

Hizbullah is sufficiently well-

The organization has become

The Northern Command is well

aware of Hizbullah's iotelligence

advantages and has been acting

accordingly, varying the times

and places of operations, patrols

and convoys. Different methods

of supplying outposts bave been

Before they begin serving io the

security zone, soldiers are now

better trained to deal with the ter-

rain in which they will operate,

and are taught ways to combat

The disturbiog aspect ebout

Wednesday night's bomb attack is that it did not happen alongside a

route known to be used by IDF or

The Nahal soldiers were appar-

ently en route to carry out their

own ambush when the device

exploded. This indicates that

Hizbullah bad prior knowledge of

the route the soldiers would take,

even though it was supposed to be

The incideot also happened in

roughly the same area in which

Nahal troops clashed with a squad

of Amal gunmen about three weeks ago. A Nahal Brigade sol-

Hizbullah's guerrilla tactics.

introduced.

SLA troops

a covert operation.

eing ruled out.

ZONE **Continued from Page 1**

combat highly motivated gunmen using guerrilla-style tactics and is changing more quickly than the operating on their own turf. IDF can adjust. Half of the 27 soldiers killed in Lebanon last year equipped to carry out the hit-anddied from roadside charges while run operations, long-range shootpatrolling or moving in convoys. Last year, IDF soldiers discoving attacks on fortified outposts, and roadside bombings that charered over 100 roadside charges. acterize guerrilla warfare. Sophisticated electronic and more sophisticated in planning mechanical methods are used to and intelligence gathering. It uses locate and safely destroy bombs, local knowledge of terrain and information gained on IDF and as well as dogs specially trained

to sniff out explosives. SLA movements to optimom Whenever a bomb is detected, IDF sappers immediately go into advantage. action, sealing off the area, questioning soldiers and trying to figure out bow Hizballah planned on using the bomb - all this before disarming it.

Hizbullah is constantly improving its bombs, particularly the way they are detonated. Most of the bombs found in the beginning of the year were rigged to be set off by sophisticated remote control

Hizbullah guerrillas also have become experts io hiding their bombs. One oearly foolproof method is to hide it in e fiberglass imitation of a stone, believed to be manufactured in Iran.

Not that the army doesn't fight back. According to the London-based Jane's World Armies, the IDF's advanced electronic warfare constantly sends out signals that set off bombs. In one incident last year, Jane's said, six Hizbullah guerrillas were killed this way when they were laying a device. Israel's electronic success has been so great, Jane's said, that Hizbullah has returned to the old trip-wire method of detonation, demonstrated in this latest incident.

dier was killed in that incident, as -Nonetheless, Hizbullah can were three of the gunmen. penetrate the security zone virtu-The question that has to be answered by Northern Command's inquiry ioto the latest ally at will, plant explosive devices or lay ambushes. Its incident is whether a Hizbullah activists even bring along a cam-MERCEDES 280 SE, 1985, eutomatic, ABS + extras, like new. Tel. 052-436-464. eraman to videotape attacks. The footage is later used in the organization's psychological war against the IDF and SLA, and in its efforts to influence Israeli public opinion by bringing the effects of the war into people's living rooms and playing oo their emo-

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Levine told reporters yesterday that explosive devices are one of the biggest problems facing troops in south Lebanon.

He said the army was trying in deal with them io various ways, including offensive efforts to eliminete or thwart the bomb planters. The army is also taking protective measures, he said, but did not eleborate.

Military sources maintained that the relative quiet of the past few weeks hes been used by Hizbullab to prepare for future attacks, especially in the coming month, during which the organization marks several commemorative dates.

February is a month when it is

EDISON Continued from Page 1

tured at the upcoming Asian Philetelic Exhibition in Hong Kong.

Postal Authority spokeswoman Cigal Galil, speaking on behalf of director-general Moshe Tery and philatelic service director Yioon Beilin, said officials were shocked to hear of the claims, and that the stamp - produced in the form of a commemorative sheet was intended to show to the world Israel's "openness to universal themes."

The proposal to include Edison on the stamp was made by the authority's stamp-planning committee and approved over a year ago by the Ministerial Committee on Symbols and Ceremonies, then headed by Uzi Baram.

Edison and Bell are only the fifth and sixth non-Jews to appear on Israeli stamps, after Eleanor Roosevelt, Harry Truman,

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and Raoul Wallenberg. Galil said a philatelic service research team "looked at the Encyclopedia Ha'lvrit" and found "nothing hinting" at possible antisemitism in Edison's record. They did not look at any biographies. she conceded.

"If it's true that he was antisemitic, his inclusion in the stamp was done innoceotly," she said. She did not rule out the possibility that the stamp issue would be cancelled, but did note that this would entail a financial loss and embarrassment.

"From now on, we will be much more careful in selecting stamp themes and conduct deeper research," Galil said, "But sometimes problems appear where you least expect it, haredim objected when God's name appeared on a series of synagogue stamps: other Israelis objected when Menachem Begin's stamp appeared with the top of his head left out by the

cold outside but "hot on the front," Levine said. He noted, however, that memorial dates were not the main moovating factor behind Hizbullah attacks, stressing that the organization was constantly trying to hil the IDF and the SLA.

17

It is also no secret, Levine said, thet Hizbullah enjoys the support of Iran and the acquiescence of Syna. The organization's operations, however, are determined primarily by operational factors, including the state of the moon and the weather.

Arieh O'Sullivan contributed to this report.

hes long been involved in researching Nazism and who recently prepared an exhibit on Holocaust mail.

The Hebrew University's Sassoon Center on Antisemitism was unable to provide concrete information on Edison's views. However, the recent book by noted author Paul Auster, The Invention of Solitude, states that Auster's father was hired "for a brief moment" as an assistant in Edison's library "only to have the job taken away from him the next day because Edison learned he was e Jew."

In addition, the 1991 book What Did They Think of the Jews?, collected and edited by Allan Gould, specifically deals with charges that the American inventor may have hated Jews.

"Wes Edison ... antisemitic? There are some indications that he was," Gould writes.

When a series of antisemitic articles appearing in the Dearborn Independent, "Edison gave indications of support for that effort." And in a 1924 note to a man named Liebold, he sent a news clipping entitled "lews are Ruling Soviet Russia," which stated that out of the 48 leaders of the Soviet government, only five were of "pure Russian blood." Edisoo's attached note says only: "Liebold: This is interesting. Edison."

Motor car developer Henry Ford, known for antisemitic views, sent Edison a complete set of volumes of the International Jew, "in a special leather presentation binding. Edison graciously accepted with 'thanks." Gould writes.

Gould ootes, however, that the evidence on Edison's alleged antisemitism is far from conclusive. since except for the notes he wrote when he was an old man, he "never made an antisemitic coorment to anyone."

Gould continues: "Was he or wasn't he? The evidence seems to ndicate that Edison shared the

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bumb attack in this area could have been anticipated, giveo Hizbullah's familiarity with the region and assistance from local residents, and therefore averted by sending the troops to a different ambush point along a more unexpected route.

designer; and some religious Jews complained about a series of stamps oo dogs and a Chagall stamp with a tiny oude Batsheva." The possibility that Edison had

antisemitic views was raised by Stephen Esrati, a philatelic jour-nalist in Shaker Heights, Ohio, and by Ken Lawrence, a vice president of the 56,000-member American Philatelic Society, who

Populist notion that Wall St. was dominated by Jews, and it was the Jews in the financial professions whom Edison resented If Edison was antisemitic, as his notes to his one-time Florida neighbor Ford indicate, then it appears to be the unique form of the disease ... economic antisemitism."

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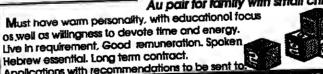


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in brief

Hamas warns: Don't extradite Abu Marzook

Hamas warned yesterday that if the US extradites Mousa Mohammed Abu Marzook, the head of the group's poliocal wing, to Israel, it will resume its terror attacks in the region. Mahmoud Zahar, a Hamas leader in Gaza, read a statement to Palestinian reporters late Wednesday night that said the US

would be making a mistake" if it extradites Abu Marzook. "The US would do this to appease Israel, but it must know that Hamas holds the US fully responsible, and if anything happens to Marzook Hamas will resume causing instability in the region after a period of quiet that has prevailed here." the statement said. Itim

Noam Friedman's remand extended

The Central Command Military Court yesterday extended the remand of IDF soldier Noam Friedman, who carried out the shooong in Hehron last month in which six Arabs were wounded

The court extended his remand for 15 days, after which an indictment is likely to be filed. Until then, he will be held at the Kfar Shaul mental hospital in Jerusalem. Previously he had been held at an IDF lockup.

The remand extension is designed to allow a panel of three psychiatrists to determine whether he is fit to stand trial. Itim

Pirate radio station shut down

Communications Ministry inspectors yesterday shut down a pirate radio station in Rishon Lezion, whose broadcasts had seriously interfered with communications between jets and Ben-Gurion Airport's control tower. Five workers at the illegal station, which has been closed

down several times in the past, were arrested by accompanying policemen. The station owners unsuccessfully tried to hide broadcasting equipment worth tens of thousands of shekels from Judy Siegel the inspectors.

Boy gets liver lobe transplant from father

A four-year-old boy from Kfar Manda near Nazareth yesterday became the second Israeli to undergo the transplant of a lobe of a liver from a live donor. Only last month, a girl of the same age from the coastal village Jisr-az-Zarka was the first, getting a lobe from the liver of her mother.

The boy, Noor, was infected with hepatitis A approximately two weeks ago and treated at the French Hospital in Nazareth. His condition deteriorated, and he was rushed to the Schneider Children's Medical Center of Israel in Petah Tikva two days

No organ was available, so the father, 29-year-old Khaled Ziadna, immediately agreed to donate a part of his liver. He was found a compatible donor and the operation was performed at the nearby Rabin Medical Center-Beilinson Campus. Judy Siegel

Breakthrough in Swiss bank investigation

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NEWS

Commission may waive laws for probe

By BATSHEVA TSUR

...

Members of the Swiss Banking Commission said yesterday evening in Zurich that they were prepared to waive Swiss banking laws in order to allow an investigation into the missing Jewish assets from the time of the Holocaust. The SBC members notified the

Agency Chairman Avraham Burg said in a telephone call from

Burg, one of the six members of the Volcker Committee, described the move as "a breakthrough." The committee was "shocked" to learn vesterday that, during a 1963

investigation into assets deposited by Jews in Switzerland during the Nazi era, only 26 banks of the more than 500 operating then in Switzerland had "bothered to respond to the requests of the SBC. Burg added.

returned assets worth SFr to million (then equivalent to \$8m.) to Jewish organizations and individuals, he added.

meeting late last night. Meanwhile, Swiss banks said

York politicians to study the facts before deciding on a threatened boycott. Bank spokesmen said they took

als were made now after Swiss businesses and the government last week agreed to a humanitarian fund for vicoms of Nazi persecution. New York city and state officials

SYRIASPEAK Continued from Page 7 .

"When you are in official talks, commitments are formal," he said. "When prime minister Rabin com-mitted himself to withdrawal, he was representing Israel, not him-self personally. After Rabin was assassinated. Peres informed us in November through the Americans that he wanted to continue the talks, and he repeated the commitment.

Mualem hrushed aside the position of Netanyahu that unwritten. unsigned proposals did not com-mit his government. "This is a new interpretational law.'

The Syrian envoy said Israel's commitment to full withdrawal came only after "enormous effort," noting that since the October 1991 Madrid peace conference, "the only issue we would even consent to discuss was full withdrawal."

Under the Likud government of former prime minister Yitzhak Shamir, he said "it was a dialogue of the deaf... After Rabin became prime minister in June 1992, we still insisted on discussing withdrawal only.

When Rabin finally realized that the Syrians would not move a step ahead in discussing any of the other elements of a peace settlement before being convinced of Israel's intention of full withdrawal, he made the upening.

That was in August 1993, and we negotiated the details of the withdrawal element for almost a year, until July 1994, when we finalized the agreement on full withdrawal to the June 4, 1967 lines."

Asked why Syria insisted on the June 4, 1967 lines rather than the international boundaries, Muallem said: "The difference between the international border and the June 4 border is very slight on the ground, actually. This land has oo strategic importance, but the issue is sovereignty. Every inch of our land is sacred to our people."

Rabin's acquiescence in Syria's demand for a total withdrawal "opened the way for negotiations on the other elements of a peace agreement - what prime minister Rabin used to call the 'four legs of the table."

With the agreement on withdrawal. Mualem said he and then-Israeli ambassador to Washington Itamar Rabinovich started talks on unmalization, security arrangements and a timetable for the implementatino of the agreements. But despite Rabin's Agreement to Syria's demand for a withdrawal to the June 4, 1967 lines, Syria, he said, upposed Israel's "exaggerated" proposals for security arrangements and normalization.

The major point of contention no security issues was Israel's request for an early-warning station on the Golan fullowing withdrawal.

Syria, he said, considered this

believe that it is the Syrians that are not moving. This is not the case. fsrael moved very slowly, very cautiously, until after Oslo II had been concluded, and especial-

ly until Peres became prime minis-"Rabin's strategy was to decouple the Palestinian, Syrian, Jordanian, and Lebanese tracks he controlled the pace of our negotiations according to what was happening on the other tracks.

"When he moved on the Palestinian track in September 1993, for example, he informed us through the Americans that he could not proceed on the Syrian track because me Israeli public needed time to digest the Oslo accord. So he suspended our talks.

Then he moved on the Jordanian track in 1994 and informed us that the Israeli public needed time to digest the Jordanian-Israeli agreement Again, our talks were suspended. "It was only after the Israelis finalized Oslo II with the

Palestinians in September 1995 that they turned to us and wanted to move very quickly." Another reason cited by Mualem for the slow pace was the "person-

al difference between Rabin and Peres. Both men wanted toachieve a settlement with Syria, but each had his own speed and conditions. Rabin was reluctant, suspicious, very cautious. He moved very slowly, inch by inch.

When Peres became prime minister, he was in a burry - he wanted to enter the elections with the Syrian-Israeli agreement in his hand. He wanted to 'fly high and

> The difference between the International border and the **June 4 border** is very slight on the ground, actually. This land has no strategic

importance, but the issue is sovereignty.

---Walid Mualem

fast,' as he used to say. "I used to tell the Israeli counterpart that it is important to fly, but it is also very important to know when and where to land you can't continue to fly high and

fast. We have our public upinion

"First of all, people seem to the massacre, how could Syria make a gesture for him?" asked Muslem

Friday, January 31, 1997 The Jerusalem Post

nic

"But more important, Syria does not interfere in Israel's affairs. The Israelis bave to vote according to their will. Nobody can impose peace on the other - peace must represent the interests of both sides. If the Israelis do not see peace in their interests, this is for them to decide.

"This, actually, was a problem with the negotiations all along. We always felt that the Israelis wanted Syria to do their work for them. They wanted us to convince their public that peace was in their interests. We prepared our public for peace with Israel.

Many things changed in our media, but they wanted us to speak in the Israeli media to prepare Israeli public opinion. They wanted us to allow Israelis to visit

Syria. We considered such insistence a negative sign: When you do not prepare your own public for peace with your neighbor, this means you do oot really have the intention to make peace."

He said there was "no reason" for Syria to embark on talks with the Netanyahu government "if we are not certain that the end result of the negotiations will be a return of the Golan to the lines of June 4, 1967. "As long as he [Netanyahu] wants to negotiate on the basis of 'peace-for-peace,' he will find no Syrian willing to talk to bim."

Mualem stressed that "nothing can compensate the Syrian people for losing one inch in the Golan. Not even the moon. The Golan is our territory. ft is a sacred cause for the Syrian people, and we will continue to struggle until we recover this territory to the lines of June 4, 1967."

He denied an Israel Television report that he had informed a senior US official that negotiations could resume on the basis of an Israel declaration of principle recognizing the land-for-peace formula.

This is not accurate. We have a single position, and it has never changed. The principle of landfor-peace alone is out sufficient ... We need Israeli acceptance uf what Rabin committed Israel to full withdrawal to the line of June 4, 1967 - and an Israeli commitment to the Aims and Principles of Security Arrangements paper reached in May 1995 after Rabin's visit to Washington.

"They also have to agree to resume talks from the point where they left uff in February 1996. All these issues were approved in the presence of the American cosponsor. These points are crucial for

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Englan

Syria. "If ever we were to agree to return to the table without Netanyahu's commitment both to full withdrawal and to honor the American-diafted paper on security arrangements [which establishes the principle of equality and mutuality on security issues], we would lose all we achieved

Alleged Nazi EXPATS war criminal **Continued from Page 10**

As for Israel's neighbors, they take an even more rigid approach

than Israel has done up to now. Hundreds of thtusands of Jordanians (representing a significant proportion of the country's 4.2

Guif states. Yet at the last elections > for Jordan's 80 seat House of Deputies, in November 1993, no one outside Jordan, not even diplomats, was allowed to vote. The same situation will apply in the furthcuming Jordanian elections this November. Egypt took a similar approach in their parliamentary elections in 1995.

and news agencies

Volcker Committee which convened in Zurich yesterday that they would allow the accounding firms appointed by the committee to try to locate the assets, Jewish

Switzerland.

At the time, Switzerland

you look exactly at what bas been dooe already." Swiss Bankers Association spokeswoman Silvia The Volcker Committee was still

yesterday they were already work-Matile told Reuters. ing fast to set up a Holocaust

the boycutt threat seriously but

of dollars deposited in secret

accounts by Jews before and during World War II. This is hard to understand if

memorial fund, and urged New General Kofi Annan told a news conference yesterday he viewed Switzerland's dispute with Jewish groups over the funds as a "public

were puzzled the New York propos-

as host to the UN's European headquarters had been compromised by the controversy.

country; mainly in the US and the . controversial approach to the issue of voting rights. In this week's par, liamentary and presidential elections in Chechnya, tens of thou-sands of Chechen refugees were specially bused in from neighboring republics to vote at polling stations set up on Chechnya's borders, while the 200,000 ethnic Russians who have fled the republic could not vote unless they made their tiwn way

their inalienable right.

system. While many suggested

voting rights for emigrants.

Jerusalem and a native of

Australian citizen to cast a ballot,

the Diaspora don't know what is

going on here. They sit over there

but they do not live with the [ter-

When asked for comment about

the proposed legislatitm, most

baredim either had not heard of

the pending bill or didn't care.

"These things don't interest me," one resident of the haredi Geula

neighborhood muttered before

continuing to mumble in Yiddish

as he hurried down the crowded

Self-proclaimed Zionist Danny

Mush Meyer, who works at

Yavneb Olami, a religious youth

organization for foreigners in Israel, argued that if Israelis

abroad are given the right to vote outside of Israel, "we should give

the entire Diaspora Jewry the right

to vote, because that's what

they've become: Diaspora Jews."

But many others disagreed. As soldier Uri Gabbay put it, "Israel

is not like any other country. You

really need to live here to be able

fax," he boasted.

rorist] attacks."

street

to vote here."

warned on Wednesday they might bar government deposits with the banks or make it hard for them to do business in one of the world's top financial centers unless Switzerland compensates Holocaust survivors. The moves marked the first entry by US state and local govemments into a controversy over whether Swiss banks kept millions

In Geneva, UN Secretary-

relations disaster" and urged a

He was responding to a question whether he thought

60

Switzerland's perceived neutrality

quick end to the row.

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terday.

US Commerce Uodersecretary

Stuart Eisenstat in Zurich yes-

(Reuter)

By ROBERT SARNER and STEVE LEIBOWITZ

living in

Canada dies

The death this week in Canada of the most notorious surviving Nazi war criminal never brought to justice has intensified calls by Jewisb leaders for Ottawa to speed up long-delayed legal actiun against the estimated hundreds of suspected war criminals living in Canada.

Alleged Nazi war criminal Antanas Kenstavicitus died this week of a heart attack, only hours after Canadian Justice Ministry officials opened deportation proceedings against him. Canadian Jewish officials were upset that, true to a now-familiar scenario, yet another suspected mass murder escaped justice though a natural death.

Kenstavicius, 90. figured prominently in a Jerusalem Post expose in November which included an excerpt of a conversation secretly recorded last year by New York detective Steve Rambam, in which Kenstavicius admitted iovolvement in the mass murder of Jews in Lithuania in 1941.

Shortly before his death the Justice Ministry filed 53 documents of evidence against Kenstavicius, who arrived in Canada with refugee status in 1948. A day before his death, the head of the Canadian War Crimes Unit Paul Vickery announced that the tape provided by Rambam would be given into evidence.

Rambam gave his evidence to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police last month in Montreal. Vickery said "The Kenstavicius tape is potentially useful...it appears to place him at the scene of an execution of Jewish people in some detail. That is something we did not previously have, so it's potentially useful."

But the prosecution never had a chance to present its evidence. When word that Kenstavicius had died reached Immigration offices. adjudicator Daphne Shaw-Dyck ordered the deportation hearing terminated.

Justice Ministry lawyer George Carruthers filed the evidence, explaining, "our goal was to file all our material so that it is now in the public domain and the public will know that we did our very best to remove this man."

Carruthers and colleague Esta Resnic bad spent 18 months gathevidence against ering Kenstavicius, who the Wiesenthal Center had named as one of the 10 leading Nazi war criminals still at large.

SAY **Continued from Page 10**

and in Israel as an Israeli. I think your allegiance shtuld be to the place where you have your home and have put down roots.

"Nevertheless, I will exercise my right to vote in future Israeli elections in order to express my upinion and have some impact on who leads the couotry."

Similarly, Judea Pearl, a UCLA computer scientist, noted that he would probably cast his ballot, even though he may lack the intimate knowledge of Israeli politics an intelligent choice requires.

Despite such misgivings, he would vote, because "I hate some of the things happening in Israel. especially the power of the religious parties, which weaken my relations to my native land," said

Firmly opposed to the bill are Moshe Rubinstein, a UCLA engineering professor, and his wife Zafa, a psychologist. They feel that "people have no right to vote if they don't have to pay for the consequences that might result. You can't make the rules if you don't play the game."

Pearl.

Another Israeli, who requested anonymity, said that only those who performed their annual military service and paid taxes in Israel should be allowed to vute. "Can you image a hundred

Israeli political candidates campaigning in Los Angeles, New York and London?" be asked.

Many Israelis in Britain are more vehement about asserting their right to play a part in the Israeli poliocal process. Anat Koren, who edits the eight-page Hebrew-language weekly A'London, which is aimed at Israelis in Britain, keeps her ear close to the ground for the 50,000strong community there, believes she speaks for many Israelis in Britain when she declares tartly: "If we want a normal state and be like other countries, we should grow up."

By that she means ending the Israeli tradition of demonizing Israeti emigres, legitimizing their choice to live abroad and, like other states, giving them an absentee vote

Of the Israeli emigrants she has spoken to about the issue, only one argued against voting rights

on the grounds that they would not have to live with the consequences of their decision. As it is, Israeli emigres are delighted that they have become the subject of debate: "We talk about Israel every day," says Kuren, "and it's nice that they are talking about us now."

LIKE KOREN, Dafna Vardi lives in Britain because that is the home of her spouse. Noting the maxim "no taxation without representation," she believes there was a stronger case for giving emigrants the vote when they had to pay the travel tax every time they visited ~ and left - Israel.

Vardi insists that Israelis abroad like her, who were born and educated in Israel, served in the army and continue to be intensely engaged in the affairs of the state should have a voice in its political management.

She worries, however, that large numbers of religious Jews living abroad who have never lived in Israel and have no intention of immigrating will abuse the right to vote and distort the complexion of Israel's political system. She has visions of hordes of

religious Jews from the Diaspora touching down at Ben-Gurion Airport, claiming instant citizenship under the Law of Return and immediately returning to their Diaspora homes, only to reemerge as Israelis at election time when they are told to vote according to the predilection of their rabbis.

She believes that if overseas votes are to be permitted, the law should be qualified, limiting voting rights to Israelis abroad who can demonstrate they have a commitment to Israel - a stake in the State rather than only the Land of Israel. This, she suggests, could include those bom and educated in Israel, those who have done

military service, who pay taxes in Israel or those who have lived in Israel for a minimum period of, say, five years. Vardi feels she herself has

earned the right - and she has put her money where her mouth is: In the 1992 elections, she flew to Israel to cast her vote, which, she is proud to acknowledge, contributed in the victory of the late Yitzhak Rabin.

The narrow margin of victory for Binyamin Netanyahu in the

"an infringement of our sovereignty, as if they wanted to spy on us last election has convinced her from our own territory - and this in that, if the law has not been a situation of peace, oot a situation changed by then, she will join the of war. several hundred fsraelis in Britain They already have the technolwho regularly make the five-hour

tigy, including satellites - their own and American - that can do flight to Israel on election day to the job far more effectively ou the exercise what they deem to be ground than early-warning stations. Their insistence on ground BACK IN Israel, residents uf stations put a question mark in our Jerusalem came up with a variety minds.

of different solutions to what most "They also spoke of the size of viewed as a discriminatory voting the Syrian army, as if what was important was numbers rather than that the current law be changed to the quality and type of equipment accommodate those Israelis who and armaments and such things as travel abroad and find themselves the possession of a nuclear arsetemporarily out of the country at nal election time, oearly all opposed

"Finally, they insisted that the demilitarized zones reach just But some put a different spin on events. Daniel Meyer, owner of south of Damascus. This means you open the capital to them. We the Internet Cafe in duwnlown refused all these demands."

Syria also opposed fsrael's pro-Australia, pointed out that it is posals for normalization: "Israel mandatory for every voting-age believed that you can push a button to make peace warm, to direct eveo those abroad. "I voted via Syrian popular attitudes from a state of war to a state of peace ...

With the advent of modern tech-"It is always necessary to edunology and the ease in which outcate and infurm the people. They of-state voting is arranged by need to read the agreement to see other countries, one American whether it conforms to their interimmigrant to Israel, Danny ests, they need to believe in it. You Levine, insisted that since "most can't oblige them to buy Israeli enlightened societies allow their goods or visit Israel if they are not citizens to vote abroad," Israel convinced that Israel has changed should jump onto the bandwagon. from being an enemy to a neigh-Travel agent Rina Putyomkin disagreed. "People over there in

"An agreement which is signed by the leadership tells what is required from our side, but we cannot be obliged to make the peace warm." He said Israel wanted open borders, open markets for their goods, and so on:

"This would have an obvious effect on our own economy. Our economic regulations are not against them; we do not open our markets to any country. And how can you integrate two economies when one has a per capita income of \$900 per year and the other has a per capita income of \$15,000 per year?

"Such integration is not possible, so we discussed a transitional period during which we could raise our economy to the level where there can be competition without undue hardship on our society."

He denied that Syria was responsible for the slow pace of progress in the talks, even after Rabin's offer of a full withdrawal to the June 4, 1967 lines.

and need to sell the agreement to negotiations. them, to get them to accept it. But . "It would be like throwing away he couldn't wait. He [Peres] was in office less than three months Israel's earlier commitments and when he called elections."

Mualem said that earlier, he,

Peres's new negotiating head Uri

Savir, and US peace coordinator

Dennis Ross "set a deadline for

ourselves, agreeing to close the remaining gaps and finalize all the

elements of an agreement by June

enseonced at the Wye Plantation

in Maryland, "there was a new

Israeli team and we had started to

find solutions. On certain items

"The expectation was that by

September 1996 the final docu-

ment would be ready," he said.

"So we were very surprised when,

soon afterward, Mr. Peres called.

when secretary [of state Warren]

Christopher came to Wye

Plantation on January 25 and

informed me of prime minister

Peres's decision. This was not

pleasant news for us and the.

After the suicide bombings in

February and March, Israel sus-

nended the talks. "From that time,

of course, everything began to col-lapse," said Mualem, as attention

switched from oegotiatioos to

combating what he described as

Asked whether, with hindsight.

Syria should have accepted the

terms offered by the former Labor

government, even if this entailed

the "heavy price" of an early-warn-

ing ground station in the Golan,

Mualem replied: "We are the only

Israelis - we would refuse even if

it would be manned by the

Americans. They offered us a

ground station in Safed, and we

said no because we will not allow

means, the only reason for the

Israelis to insist on having a ground

station is to show that they are in

He also rejected suggestions that

the Golan against our sovereignty."

Syria might have made "a small

gesture" in help Peres win the

election: "After he began bombing

Lebanon in Grapes of Wrath, after

"Given advanced technological

one on our soil.

"so-called terrorism."

The talks were still going on

we found bridges

early elections.

Americans."

With the Peres negotiator

1996."

going back to square one." And if the peace process fails, he warned, "all options are open. In Syria, peace is still our strategic option ... But you cannot achieve peace by yourself, you need a partner for peace.

"We do not yet see signs that the Netanyaho government is such a partner or that Netanyahu has a strategy for peace.

"He has a strategy for expanding the settlements, which are bullets in the heart of the peace process. For that reason, all options are open."

The envoy declined to elaborate: "All options are open. Let's leave it at that."

* On Israeli settlements in the Golan: "It was understood that President Assad's demand of 'full withdrawal' to the June 4, 1967 lines included both civilian and military withdrawal."

* On a unilateral Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon: "We would appland. If Israel fulfilled UN Security Council Resolution 425, obliging it to withdraw to the inter-national border without preconditions, we would be delighted."

* On secret talks: "We never had secret talks with the Israelis. We. never had back channel negotiations or 'testing' meetings; every-thing takes place in the negotiating room. This has been our policy from Day One."

* On his personal relationship with the Israeli negotiators: "You respect your counterpart, but there is no interaction at the personal level." * On Israeli relations with Turkey: "Israel's military relations with Turkey were formalized in February. It was when the Israelis suspended the talks that they began trying to isolate Syria. One aspect of this was expanding their relations with Turkey. Another aspect was the operation [Gapes

of Wrath in Lebanon." * On the European role: "Europe's vital interests in the region - historical, geographical, and cultural - have to be racognized. One cannot expect them simply to act as cashiers, paying for the agreements reached. Everyone agrees that the American role is essential, but we believe that the European role is not contradictory bir complementary. We consider the European role to be very important

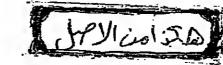
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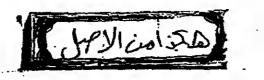
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party who can decide whether the price is heavy or not heavy. "These things matter to us because it is a question of our sovereignty. We will not permit under any circumstances a ground station in our territory manned by the



Knicks hold Cavs to 65

CLEVELAND (AP) - In a sea-son of low-scoring games, some-thing lowly was bound to happen to the Cleveland Cavaliers - the team that likes to play "How lowcan you go." Sure enough, the Cavs managed only 65 points Wednesday night. It was the lowest output in fran-

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chise history for a team that had

Chambers unretires, The Charlotte Homers The Charlotte Homers signed 37 year-old. Tom Chambers to bolister their hundy-depleted from court. Chambers the NBA's 24th all-time leading scorer with 20,024 points in 14 sensors signed a contrart last night. Chambers, a four time All-Sur, left, the NBA alter the 1994-95 sensor and played last year for Maccabi Tel Aving before using. before retiring .

plenty of forgettable moments (two 15-win seasons, the disastrous ownership of Ted Stepico) before taking on its current persona of being as exciting as coach. Mike Fratello is tall.

The Cavs, the nendsetters for the current milk-the-clock, slowdown style that consistently produces scores in the sub-90 range, had never been as bad offensively as they were Wednesday night in a 75-65 loss to the New York Knicks.

"When I looked at the score (Cavs 34, Knicks 29) after the first half, I thought it was a high school basketball game," Knicks forward Buck Williams said.

In other NBA games, the Los Angeles Lakers rallied past San Antonio 99-92, Detroit defeated Portland 99-89, Miami downed Boston 103-83, Orlando beat Phoenix 112-105, Seattle crushed. Goldeo State 11T-86, Philadelphia nipped Toronto 101-99 and Indiana defeated Charlotte 106-

95. Cleveland shot a shade below 36 percent, scored only 14 points in the second period and then managed just nine in the fourth quarter.

John Starks scored 24 points for the Knicks, who played their first game of the season-without All-Star center Patrick Ewing (pulled groin).

It was the second-lowest point total ever against the Knicks, who ""held the Indiana Packis to 64 in December 1985. Cleveland's pre-vious record for fewest points was

"To limit them to nine points in the fourth quarter shows our char-acter," Starks said. "We're on the road, we're tired, but we still got after them." Charles Oakley had 13 points and 11 rebounds, and Larry Johnson added 13 points.

Terrell Brandon, who had three of Cleveland's four field goals in the fourth period, finished with 24 points. The Cavs, who held New Jersey to a franchise-low 62 points Tuesday, were 4-for-19 from the field in the fourth quarter.

"This doesn't go down as an ugly game," said Buck Williams, who had 12 points filling in for Ewing at center. "This goes down as a victory for the New York Knicks. We don't really care if it's ugly."

Lakers 99, Spurs 92-Eddie Jones scored 19 of his 23 points in the second half and

Kobe Bryant, making his second start of the season, scored 19 to lead Los Angeles to a road victo-ΓY.

Trailing 74-67 entering the fourth quarter, the Lakers rallied behind Jones and Bryant. The two combined for 11 points as Los Angeles went on a 19-8 run for an 86-82 lead, and Bryant connected on a 3-point shot with 3:07 left to give Los Angeles a 91-84 edge.

Jones then gave the Lakers their largest lead of the game, 96-88, on two free throws with 1:09 to play. Jones connected on five free

throws in the last minute to help the Lakers sweep a three-game road trip to Seattle, Dallas and San Antonio.

Pistons 99, Trail Blazers 89 Visiting Portland hit 11 of its first 12 shots to take a 24-6 lead. But Detroit didn't give up and used a 17-4 run to take a 55-50 lead at halftime. Detroit opened the second half

with an 11-2 run to go ahead by 14, and the Pistons had no problems the rest of the way. "Our guys didn't panic. They

kept their composure, and got themselves back into the game. That's the kind of commitment to winning this team has made, Pistons coach Doug Collins said. Heat 103, Celtics 83

Alonzo Mourning had 24 points, 15 rebounds and five blocked shots for the hosts. He also had seven dunks, giving him 13 in his last two games against Boston. Backup center Isaac Austin had

14 points and 10 rebounds. Voshon Lenard scored 20 and Tim Hardaway added 15. Boston, which lost its seventh

And a second sec

 Strain British Andrews and Constructions and was processible with the second state of the sec Theoried Densits Roomain, negotianous to relatin him to the Chicago Bonde have shared Rolling States of Divigin Mankey, and he met Wednesday swith Rolling Officials and representatives of the MDA players inform Rolling Totals and representatives of the MDA players inform Robinshir total subjected of the games - and loss the equivalent of home where the smillers in pay - for kinking collective cathers also Robinshir total subjected of the games - and loss the equivalent of home where the smillers in pay - for kinking collective cathers also Robinshir totals and Minneapolis on Lanuary 15. He has intered with cause Software

ances so fair The players more has said the punisificent was too severe and said questions should be done to hour couriside courtas and photographere at games. The MEA his side of the Ricking dicklent. The agent has also said

straight, was playing with six bealthy players and a gimpy Alton Lister. Magic 112, Suns 105

At Orlando, Penny Hardaway had 32 points and eight assists, both season highs, as the Magic won for the eighth time in 10 games.

When my leg was injured, 1 couldn't do any of those things – go to the basket and finish. Tonight was the complete game," Hardaway said. "I had everything going for me and had all the confidence. This is the first time since I've been back that 1 felt that way." Orlando rebounded from a 20-point loss at Washington the previous night to climb back to 500 (20-20) and extend the Suns'

losing streak to four games. SuperSonics 111, Warriors 86 Seattle scored the first 10 points of the game, had an 18-point mar-gin by the end of the first quarter and led by as many as 36 points in

the fourth period at Golden State. Gary Payton had 26 points, including six 3-pointers, and three teammates - Detlef Schrempf, Hersey Hawkins and Craig Ehlo scored 14 each.

76ers 101, Raptors 99 Jerry Stackhouse made a 12-foot jumper at the buzzer after failing to stop Damon Stoudamire from tying the game on a long 3-pointer with four seconds left.

The victory was Philadelphia's first at home since November 30. It ended a 12-game home losing streak - the longest in franchise history.

EASTERN CONFERENCE

1	Atlantic Div	ision			
		W	2	Pct	GB
11	Miami	32	12.	727	-
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	Milwaukee	21	22	.488	17
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WESTERN CONFERENCE **Midwest Division**

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vious record for fewest points was 67, last reached in 1995 against including agreeing to dollaring his salary to charity.

15 IN CLOSE - Knicks 17% win on Wednesday. 25 25 25 Golden State 17 .395 .390 .341 L.A. Clippers 16

England awaits 5 Nations opener vs. Scotland

kick, or pass, a ball in this year's Five Nations championship yet discordant drums are already audible at Twickenham even before the Scots cross the border this weekend.

In rugby, as in cricket and soccer and every other sport worthy of the name, there is nothing quite like beating the English which explains why all those appointed to coach or lead England teams soon discover the job is the modern equivalent of being . strapped to a water wheel.

Fervent patrices like Graham Taylor, Bobby Robson, Keith Fletcher, David Lloyd and Mike Atherion have all received England to unprecedented success in the

LONDON (Renter) - England has yet to tick, or pass, a ball in this year's Five Nations hampionship yet discordant drams are rugby coach Jack Rowell's turn to endure the treatment.

> Rowell has arguably the finest coaching record at club level in English rugby history and was responsible for Five Nationswinning sides in both his first two seasons, so ripples appeared this week when he was accused of spouting tactical "mumbojumbo" to his squad.

What made the story even more piquant was the identity of the man throwing the stones. Geoff Cooke coached and managed

1980s and 90s and knows precisely what er this month Rowell was on the verge of happens when media rottweilers are tossed a nucy bone.

Portiand

It did not stop him laying into Rowell's management style, criticizing him for confus-ing the players and raising false expectations, althoogh there were subsequent claims only his negative words had been quoted.

Rowell did his best to shrug it all off but Cooke's remarks are oot isolated ones. Another former England coach, Dick Best, predicted io November his successor would be sacked in 1997 and the Rugby Football Unioo was forced to rush out an official denial after a report claimed earli-

the chop.

Rowell's success at Bath, where he shared in 16 trophies over 13 years, was based on encouraging players to take responsibility on the field and not allowiog even senior team members to settle into a comfort zone.

His problem with England is that few of them seem inclined to grasp the baton with authority.

Rowell has been trying to prise England away from their "relatively static" style of rugby, but now seems to have scaled down his boldest visions of the future.

Parcells can't break pact with Pats

FOXBORO (AP) - Bill Parcells, who wants to rebuild the New York Jets the way he did the New England Patriots, might have to start out a couple of draft choices short.

That could be the cost to the Jets for Patriots owner Robert Kraft to give up his exclusive rights to Parcells for next season.

The teams were expected to discuss a compensation deal after commissioner Paul Tagliabue ruled Wednesday that Parcells can work for another NFL team next season only if the Patriots agree.

Parcells, who wanted more control of New England's football operation, lost control of his own future just three days after taking the team to the Super Bowl Kraft can reject any offer the Jets make, forcing Parcells to stay another seasoo or leave the NFL until January 31, 1998, when the Patriots' hold on him ends.

Kraft has praised Parcells' coaching skills, but the two do oot have a warm relationship, which could make Kraft willing to let him go.

The Patriots then issued a statement saying they were pleased with the ruling and adding, "Bill Parcells has been an important part of the success of

this organization. It is now time for the Patriots to move ahead and build on the success of the 1996-97 season." Parcells took over a team that was 2-14 in 1992 and led it to the Soper Bowl in four seasons. The Jets were 1-15 last year, the worst record in the NFL, and Rich Kotite announced December 20 he would oot return as coach.

The Jets would oot consider giving up the top pick in the draft, although cash and current New York players could be part of a compensation package.

For weeks before the Patriots 35-21 Super Bowl loss to the Green Bay Packers last Sunday, reports circulated that the Jets wanted Parcells.

Parcells made it clear he wanted oo part of the Patriots after this season when he asked Tagliabue to interpret his contract. Kraft then made a similar request. The commissioner sided with Kraft. Kelly to retire from Bills

Jim Kelly will end an 11-year NFL career that

includes four straight Super Bowl appearances when he announces his retirement today. Kelly was a college star at Miami, and spent two

and turning the franchise around.

Betar Jerusalem coming out strong in season's second half

By ORI LEWIS

Betar Jerusalem will attempt to take the second round of soccer's National League by storm tomorrow afternoon as it tries to consolidate its seven-point lead at the top of the standings after the halfway

Betar will display its best soccer even after the league's month-long layoff and will have a new player up front, Nir Sivilia, on loan from Maccabi Tel Aviv, to try and finish the job. Betar is fully aware of the task ahead, and knows that twice before, it led the league at the halfway stage but failed to clinch the championship.

The embarrassing holdup by police of their star, Itzik Zohar, on Wednesday night after a friend of his was found to be in possession of marijuana in Zohar's car, should be brushed aside by both player and club, and the Jerusalemites should be ready for Maccabi Petah Tikva at Teddy Stadium. Betar knows it can get off to a

good start, after notching up a 3-0 win over its opponents in the first round.

Elsewhere, Maccabi Tel Aviv, Maccabi Haifa and Hapoel Haifa are all in the upper half of the

years in the USFL before joining the Bills in 1986

Reds sign Gascoigne to play vs. Italy

Deion

CINCINNATI (AP) - Deiou Sanders will resume his dual baseball-football career, agreeing today to return to the Cincinnati Reds this season.

It marks Senders' second tour of duty with the Reds, and a resumption of his baseball career. Cincinnati traded the center fielder to the San Francisco Giants in 1995.

Sanders said he will continue playing football for the Dallas owboys, with whom he signed a \$35 million deal in 1995.

"I plan on playing the full sea-son with the Cincionati Reds," he said. . ..

LONDON (AP) - Despite suffering an ankle injury this week, Paul Gascoigne was named yesterday to England's squad for the vital World Cup qualifier against

lan

in Amsterdam on Monday.

Italy.

at Wembley.

(Tottenham),

(Arsenal),

Pearce (Nottiogham Forest), Graeme Le Saux (Blackburn), Gary Neville (Manchester United), Tony Adams (Arsenal), Sol Campbell (Totten-ham), Dominic Matteo Gascoigne has been on crutches with his leg in a cast since getting injured playing for Glasgow (Liver-pool).

Midfielders - Paul Ince (Inter Milan), Paul Gascoigne (Rangers), David Beckham Rangers in a six-a-side tournament But the former Lazio midfielder (Manchester United), Steve McManaman (Liverpool), David Batty (Newcastle), Robert Lee is expected to recover quickly, and he was among the 24 players selected by manager Glenn Hoddle for the February 12 game (Newcastle), Paul Merson (Arsenal), Nicky Barmby (Eventon),

born). Defenders - Gareth

Southgate (Aston Villa), Stuart

Forwards - Ian Wright (Ars-Goalkeepers - David Seaman enal), Les Ferdinand (Newcastle), Ian Walker David James Matt Le Tissier (Southampton), Alan Shearer (Newcastle), Robbie (Liverpool), Tim Flowers (Black- Fowler (Liverpool).

Maccabi Haifa will also be hoping for some success, as it takes on ailing Hapoel Tel Aviv, which is reeling after a visit by the tax authorides yesterday saw some items, including Felix Halfon's car confiscated.

This weekend's National League fixtures, all matches tomorrow, first-round results in parentheses: Zafririm Holon vs. Hapoel Kfar Sava 15:00 (2-0); Maccabi Haifa vs. Hapoel Tel Aviv, Kiryat Eliezer 15:00 (3-1); Hapoel Petah Tikva vs. Hapoel Jerusalem 15:00 (3-0); Hapoel Taiba vs. Ironi Rishon Lezion, Umm El-Fahm 14:00 (1-3); Bnei Yehuda vs. Hapoel Beit She'an, Hatikva Quarter 15:00 (1-0); Betar Jerusalem vs. Maccabi Petah Tikva, Teddy Stadium 16:00 (3-0); Maccabi Tel Aviv vs. Hapoel Haifa, National Stadium 16:00 (1-3); Maccabi Herzliya vs. Hapoel Beersheba, Herzliya 17:45

table, and even if they can't win

the championship, they will be

desperate to grab one of only three

European berths on offer at the

The battle starts already tomor-

row, when Maccabi Tel Aviv hosts

Happel Haifa, Haifa stunned the

champions in the first outing of

the current season with a 3-1 win.

end of the season.

IAAF paid Johnson over British ban

(0-2).

RALEIGH, NC (Reuter) - The IAAF has paid Olympic double champion Michael Johnson about \$70,000 to resolve a dispute with British officials who reneged on a deal for him to run in Britain last year, his agent said Wednesday.

The money and the recent resignation of British Athletic Federation (BAF) executive chairman Peter Radford, who was strongly criocized for Johnson's banning from the race at Crystal Palace last July, may lead to Johnson running in Britain this summer.

The payment to Johnson followed Hunt's complaint to the IAAF after Briosh officals had dropped Johnson from the 400-meter race, saying his participation would be demoralizing to British runners so close to the Atlanta Olympics.

Johnson and Canadian Donovan Bailey, the 100m world record holder, are scheduled to meet May 31 in Toronto in a 150m race to determine "the world's fastest human," a otle both claim.

SCOREBOARD

NHL - Wednesday's results: Buffalo 3, Pittsburgh 1; Phoenix 3, Detroit 0; New Jersey 1, Ottawa 1 (OT); St Louis 4, Toronto 0; Philadelphia 2, Washington 1; Dallas 3; Anaheim 1; Colorado 6, Los Angeles 3; Edmonton 3, San Jose 1.

Joseph Hoffman, Sports Editor



A Babe in Arms

This 1914 baseball card of Babe Ruth as a pitcher for the International League Baltimore Orioles will go on exhibit at the Babe Ruth Museum in Baitimore to honor the 102nd anniversary of Ruth's birth on February 6, 1895. (AP)

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NEWS

Friday, January 31, 1997 The Jerusalem Post

VEAT

ISRAEL'S No. 1

Non-Orthodox rabbis protest Interior Ministry's conversion policy

By HAIM SHAPIRO

20

A group of Conservative and Reform rabbis yesterday chained themselves to benches at the Interior Ministry offices in Jerusalem to dramatize their demand that the ministry register their converts as Jews.

They also charged that the ministry is acting illegally by not registering those converted by their movements abroad.

"We are chaining ourselves because our communities are being held hostage, said Conservative Rabbi Andy Sacks. one of the eight rabbis chained in the entryway to the ministry's population registry office.

Ministry officials called the police, who came but did not take any action. After about an hour, the rabbis left.

However, as the Knesset prepares to take action on a proposed conversion law, which would anchor in law the recognition of only Orthodox conversions performed here, the ministry not only refuses to register as Jews non-Orthodox converts converted here. but many who underwent non-Orthodox conversion abroad, the protesters said.

According to what appear to be new, if not entirely consistent guidelines, the ministry is relusing to register as Jews, Israeli citizens and residents who underwent non-Orthodox conversion abroad. (This is in contrast to the registration of immigrant converts who were converted by non-Orthodox movements. Their right to be registered as Jews under the Law of Return has been established by the High Court of Justice.)

The ministry's recent actions

seem to be in line with demands by the religious parties that the proposed new law relate not just to conversions in Israel, but to conversions of Israeli citizens and residents abroad. Former Ashkenazi chief rabbi Avraham Shapiro last week told the National Religious Party that a conversion should be valid only if the convent lived for three years in the community which converted him. Rabbi Einal Ramon, spokesper-

son for the Conservative Movement in Israel and one of the demonstrators, said her movement converts 100 and 200 people a year here. Although some could not afford the trip and others were uninterested in being registered as Jews. 10 to 20 went abroad every year to undergo another conver-

One was Raphael Gomez, 33, originally from Uruguay.

"I have nothing to gain from it. I just want to be recognized as a Jew," said Gomez, who immigrated here in 1985, after marrying a Jewish woman.

Five years later, after having served in the army, Gomez decid-ed that he wanted to become Jewish. He went to a rabbinical court, but the rabbis told him he had no chance of converting. A few years later he met a Conservative rabbi who told him

about Conservative conversion. Gomez studied for 18 months immersed again. before the Conservative rabbinical court in Israel examined him, after which he immersed in a ritual bath and was circumcised. However, in Ministry in Tel Aviv. The officials an effort to be registered as a Jew. said they would have to study it, he made a special trip to Buenos and since then, he says, the min-Aires, to be examined again by the istry has pursued a policy of delibmovement's central rabbinical erate procrastination. court in South America. Again he

passed his examination and he Conservative Movement, has tried to meet with ministry legal advis-Two months ago. Gomez er Mickey San, but until now he brought his certificate from has not received an answer to Buenos Aires to the Interior repeated calls and letters.

The ministry, Ramon said, has not been consistent. In one case it rejected a woman who had been in Israel as a tourist "because she prepared for the conversion in Israel." However, she said, two

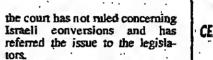
adopted infants, whose Conservative Israeli conversion certificates had been confirmed by mail by a rabbinical court abroad were registered as Jews, while the ministry refused to register two

other such infants. The ministry said that it follows the law and High Court rulings and that it registers as Jews immigrants converted abroad, but that

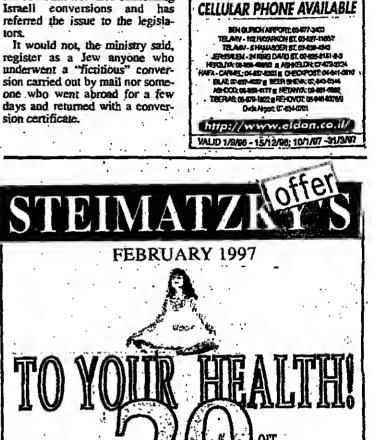
register as a Jew anyone who underwent a "fictitious" conversion carried out by mail nor someone who went abroad for a few days and returned with a conver-



Reform and Conservative rabbis chain themselves to benches at the Interior Ministry yesterday to protest against the ministry's refusal to recognize locally performed non-Orthodox conversions. (Brian Hendler



It would not, the ministry said,



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Sharansky returns to Lefortovo Prison

Dan Evron, a lawyer for the

By ABRAHAM RABINOVICH

MOSCOW - Returning yesterday to the notorious Lefortovo Prison where he had endured the most gruelling days of his life in freezing punishment cells, Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky so savored the sense of victory he was reluctant

to leave. Though prison officials were clearly restless as the planned visit continued more than 30 minutes past the alloned time, Sharansky declined to leave until he was per-

mitted to revisit one of the punishment cells. The prison director refused at first, saying punishment cells no longer existed.

Finally, however, Sharansky was taken to one. "It's even smaller than I remem-

bered," he said. At his request, the prison authorities permitted him to remain in the cell for 10 minutes together with his wife, Avital. After the door closed on them. Avital sat on the solitary chair as Sharansky spoke of his experience there.

"He said it was the place of his

greatest victory," she said afterwards. "The victory over himself." Sharansky had endured the punishment cells rather than sign a statement saying he had been wrong to participate in the Jewish emigration movement in the 1970s.

At an impromptu press confer-ence atop a snowbank after emerging from the prison, Sharansky said the punishment cells had not only been a testing place but also a place where he had been able to do his clearest thinking. "It is a place to think about good

and evil, to think about real values," he said.

The highly unusual visit to the KGB prison was made during Sharansky's official visit to Russia to promote industrial cooperation between the two countries.

Normally emotionally guarded, Sharanksy appeared elated following the visit. Asked whether he had forgiven bis captors, he said he had never seen his fight as a fight against individuals.

There is no need to forgive those who lost," he said. Sharansky presented the prison

director with five copies of his book Hear No Evil, describing his experience in Lefortovo and his battles with the Soviel authorities. The director said the books will be made available to the inmates.

Sharansky was not permitted to meet any of the prisoners. Besieged by reporters al the

prison gales when he arrived, Sharansky excused himself as be fended off questions. "I may be the only person ever

who didn't want to be late for Lefortovo," he said.

Arab council leaders cancel protest after meeting PM

By DAVID RUDGE

Israeli Arab council leaders yesterday cancelled plans to renew protests over the financial plight of the local authorities, following a meeting with Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu.

The council heads said they would try to increase the amount of money raised from municipal taxes after it was agreed that the tax increase would apply to this and future years, but not be retroactive.

This paved the way for the signing of an agreement reached with the Treasury and the Interior Ministry to ease the plight of the councils by gradually covering accumulated debts totaling over NIS 400 million, and increasing budgets to bring them in line with those given to Jewish authorities.

Under the accord, to be signed today, the 54 Arab councils will receive an additional NIS 160m. in regular budgets spread over the next three years and an extra NIS 40m, this year for development projects.

"The prime minister made it clear that he believes that there should be equality between Jewish and Arab citizens and he expressed his belief that this

would be achieved," said Hussein Suleiman, spokesman for the forum of Arab Council Heads. Suleiman, who led the delegation which met Netanyahu and Tourism Minister Moshe Katsav, who is also the minister responsible for Arab affairs, said they had pressed for the establishment of a committee that would look into the development needs of the Arab sector and make appropriate recommendations.

We also raised other issues with the prime minister including the deep concern felt by many in the Arab sector of the reports of tunnels being excavated under Al-Aska Mosque in Jerusalem," said-Suleiman.

We explained the sensitive nature of this issue for the Moslem community and we were assured that Minister Katsav would personally hold a joint visit with Umm el-Fahm mayor Sheikh Raed Salah to look into the complaints.

We expressed our appreciation over the signing of the Hebron agreement and our hope that the compre hensive peace that everybody hopes for will be con cluded during the prime minister's tenure," he added

Betar J'lem player Zohar questioned about drugs

Betar Jerusalem soccer player Itzik Zohar was questioned by police yesterday after a passenger in his car was caught with a substance suspected to be marijuana.

Police on a stake-out in Tel Aviv saw Zohar and two other men leave an apartment late Wednesday night, then get into a car and drive away. Police stopped the car and found 11 grams of a substance believed to be marijuana on one of the passengers. Zohar and the two other men were questioned by police.

Marijuana was found in the apartment the police had staked out, and one man was arrested.

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